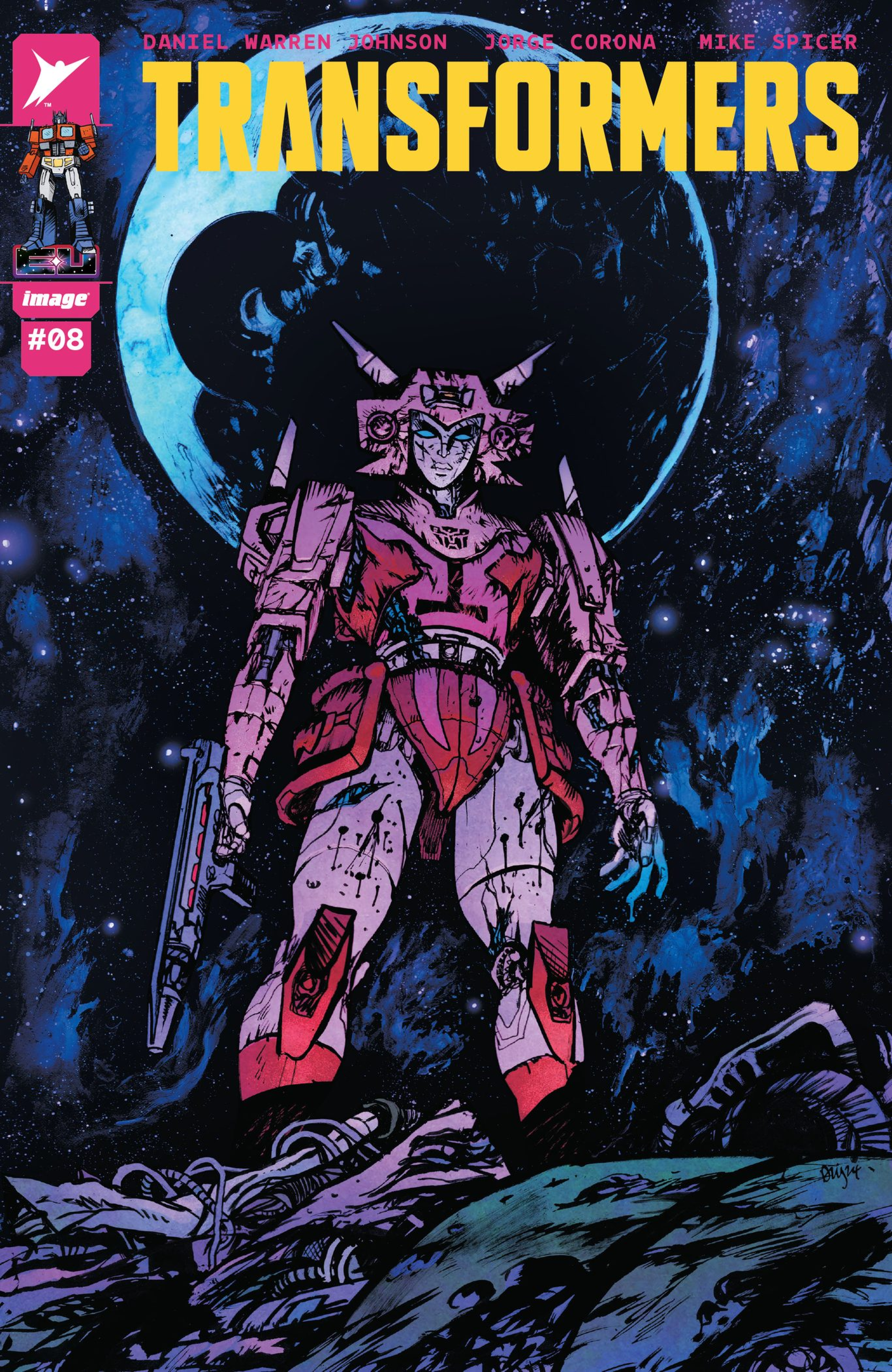
DANIEL WARREN JOHNSON JORGE CORONA MIKE SPICER

# TRANSFORMERS

#08



# ENERGON UNIVERSE

# TRANSFORMERS

## ISSUE EIGHT

**DANIEL WARREN JOHNSON**
WRITER

**JORGE CORONA**
ARTIST

**MIKE SPICER**
COLORIST

**RUS WOOTON**
LETTERER

COVERS

DANIEL WARREN JOHNSON & MIKE SPICER
JORGE CORONA & MIKE SPICER
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ETHAN YOUNG
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ADAM GORHAM
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**BEN ABERNATHY**
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**ANDRES JUAREZ**
PUBLICATION DESIGN

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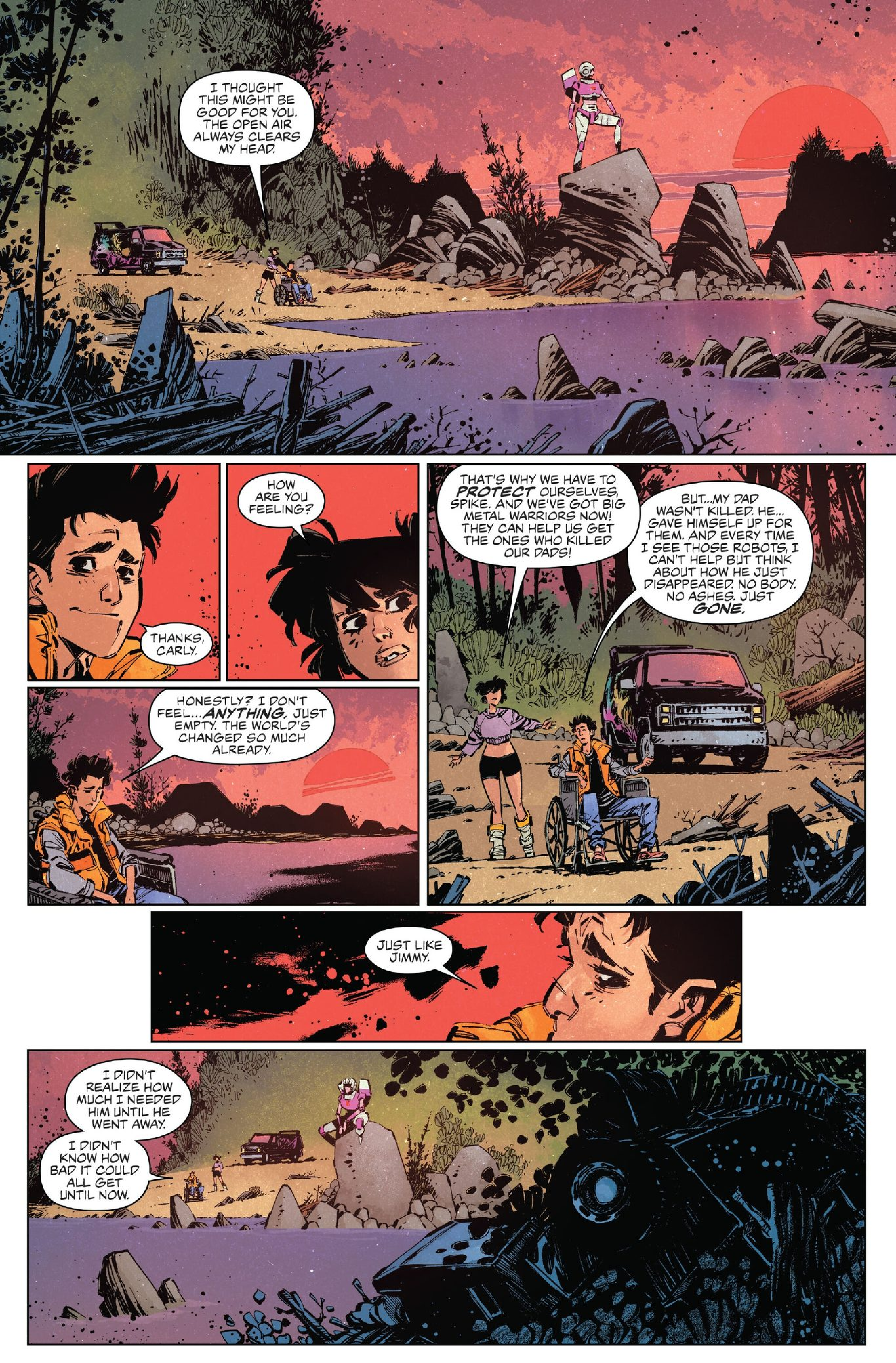
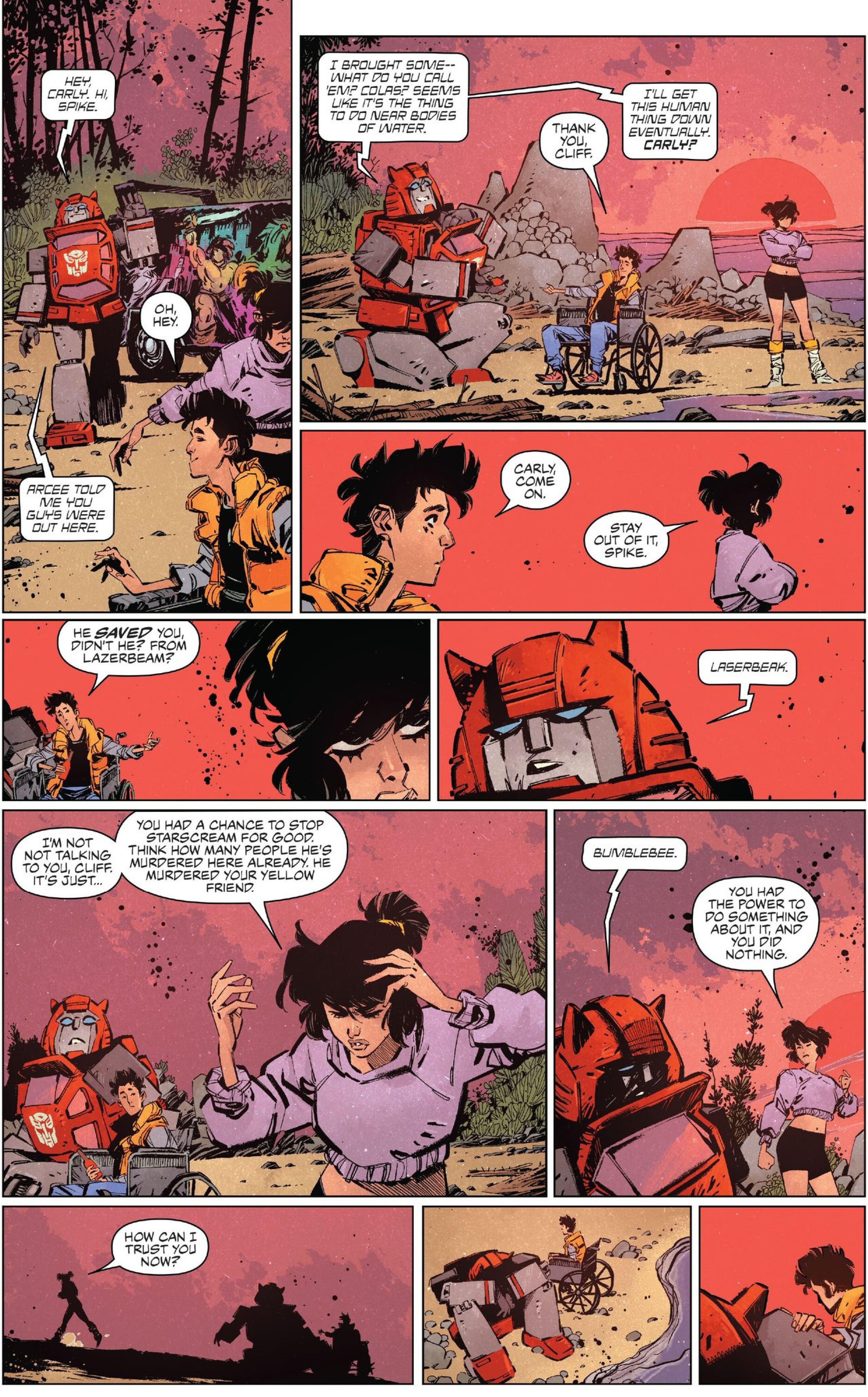
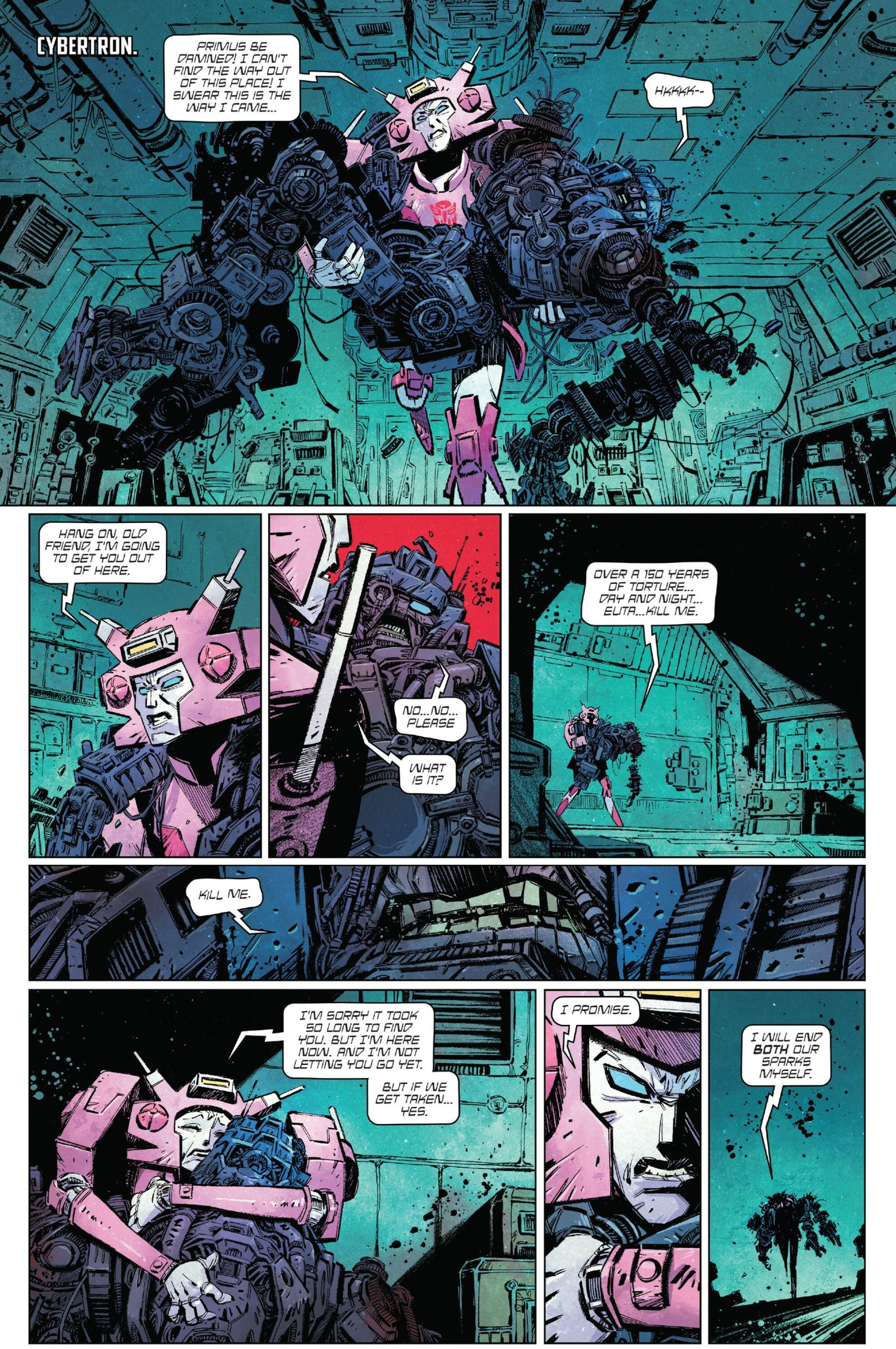
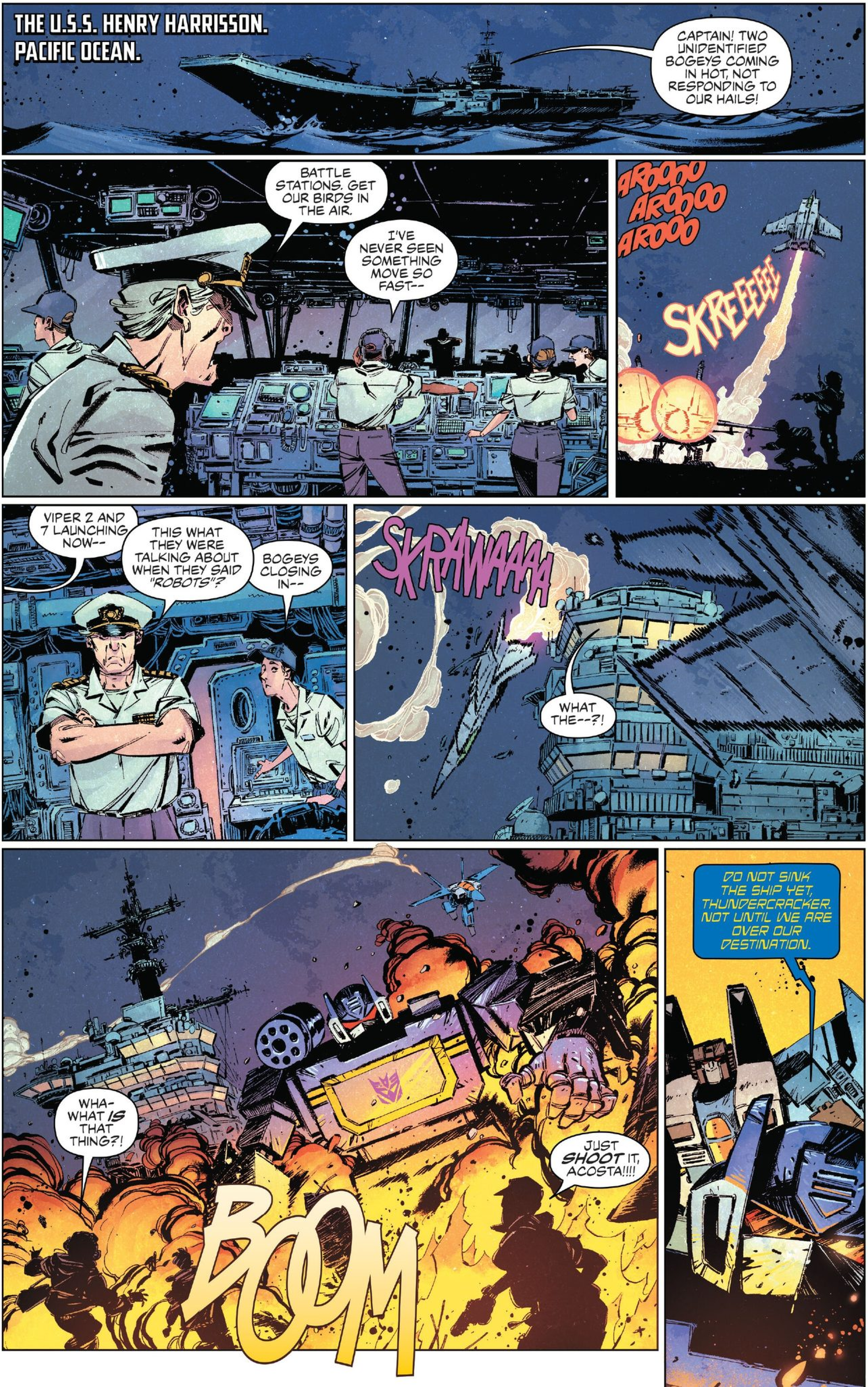
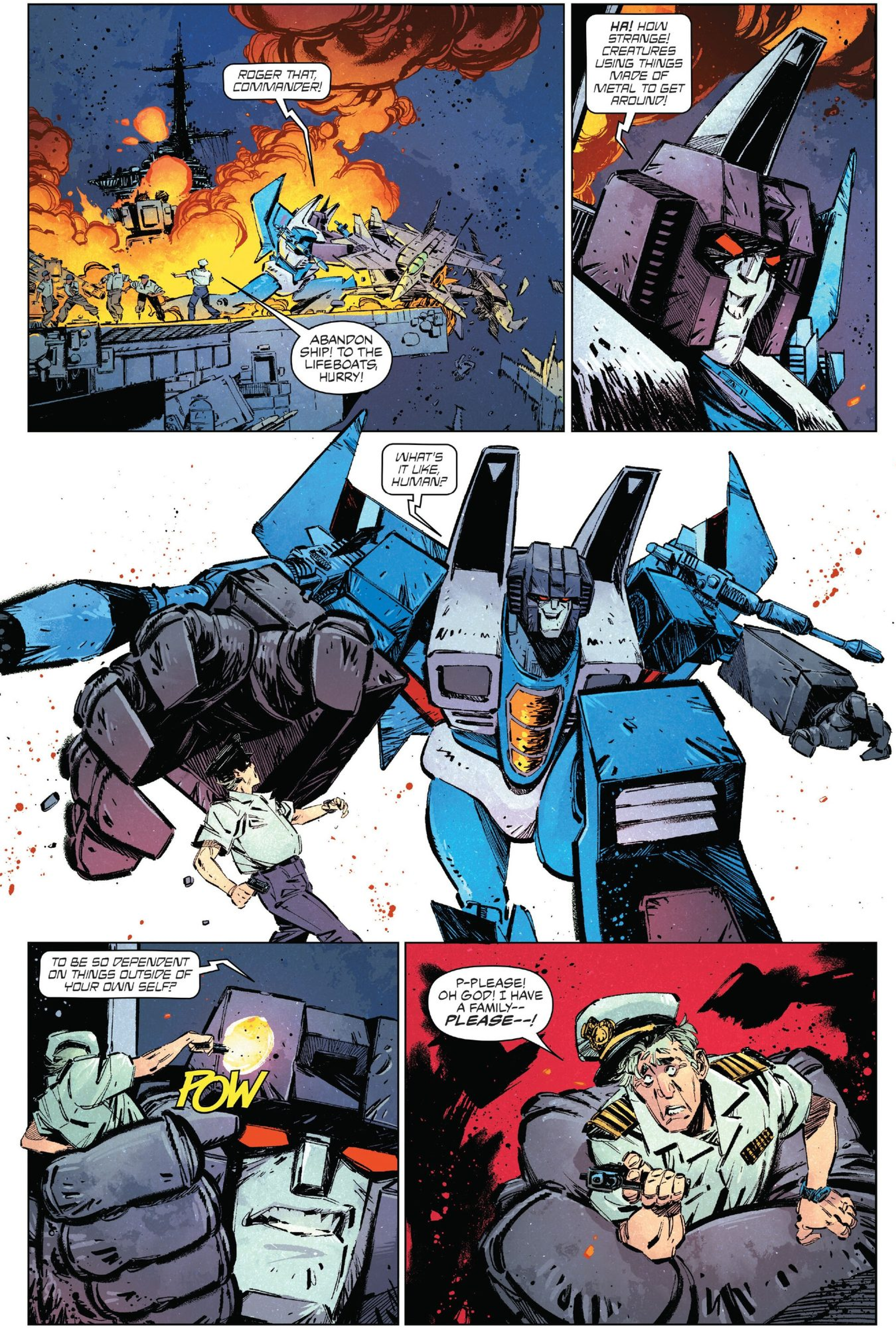
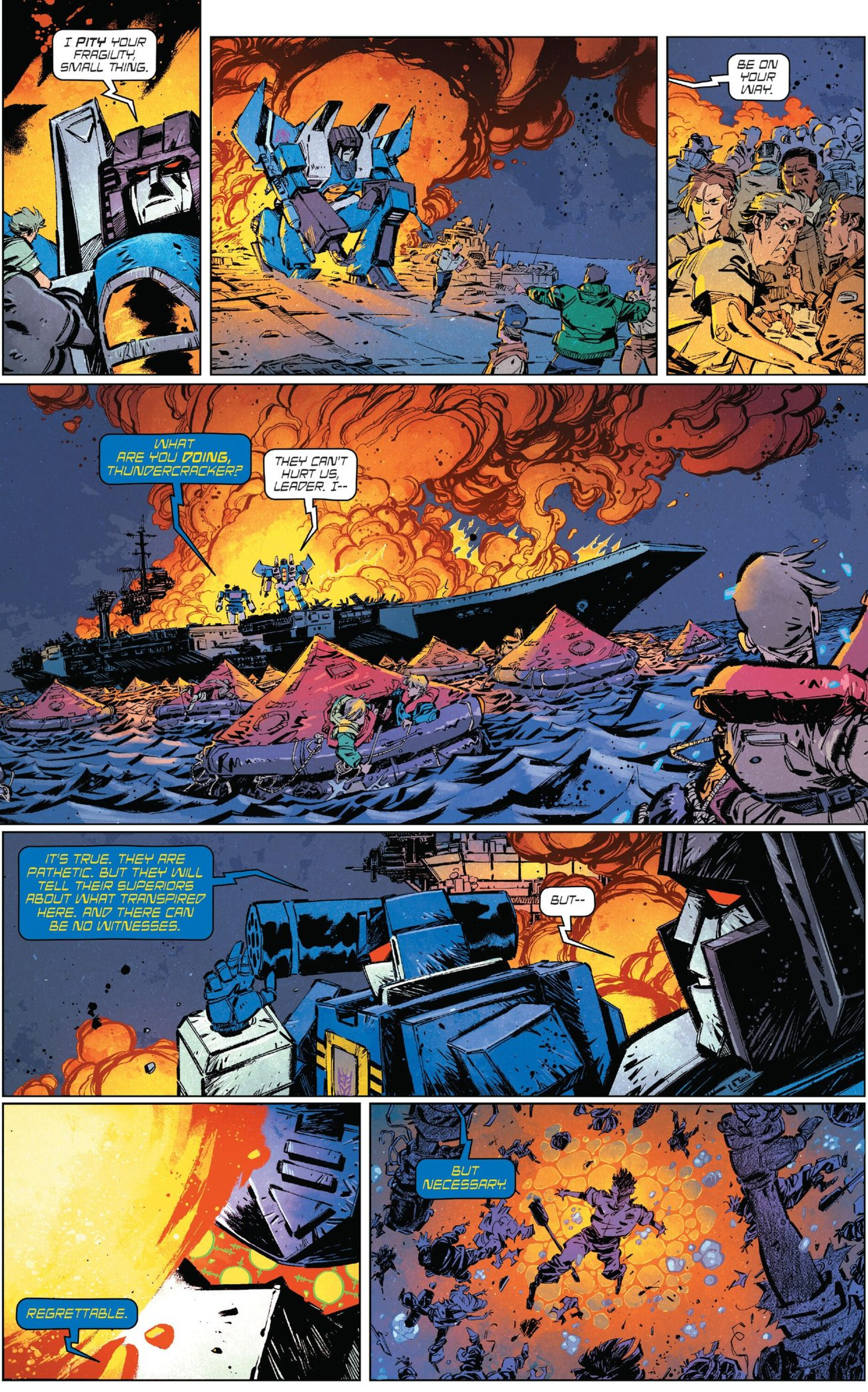

I THOUGHT THIS MIGHT BE GOOD FOR YOU. THE OPEN AIR ALWAYS CLEARS MY HEAD.
THANKS, CARLY.
HOW ARE YOU FEELING?
HONESTLY? I DON'T FEEL...**ANYTHING.** JUST EMPTY. THE WORLD'S CHANGED SO MUCH ALREADY.
THAT'S WHY WE HAVE TO **PROTECT** OURSELVES, SPIKE. AND WE'VE GOT BIG METAL WARRIORS NOW! THEY CAN HELP US GET THE ONES WHO KILLED OUR DADS!
BUT...MY DAD WASN'T KILLED. HE... GAVE HIMSELF UP FOR THEM. AND EVERY TIME I SEE THOSE ROBOTS, I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK ABOUT HOW HE JUST DISAPPEARED. NO BODY. NO ASHES. JUST **GONE.**
JUST LIKE JIMMY.
I DIDN'T REALIZE HOW MUCH I NEEDED HIM UNTIL HE WENT AWAY.
I DIDN'T KNOW HOW BAD IT COULD ALL GET UNTIL NOW.

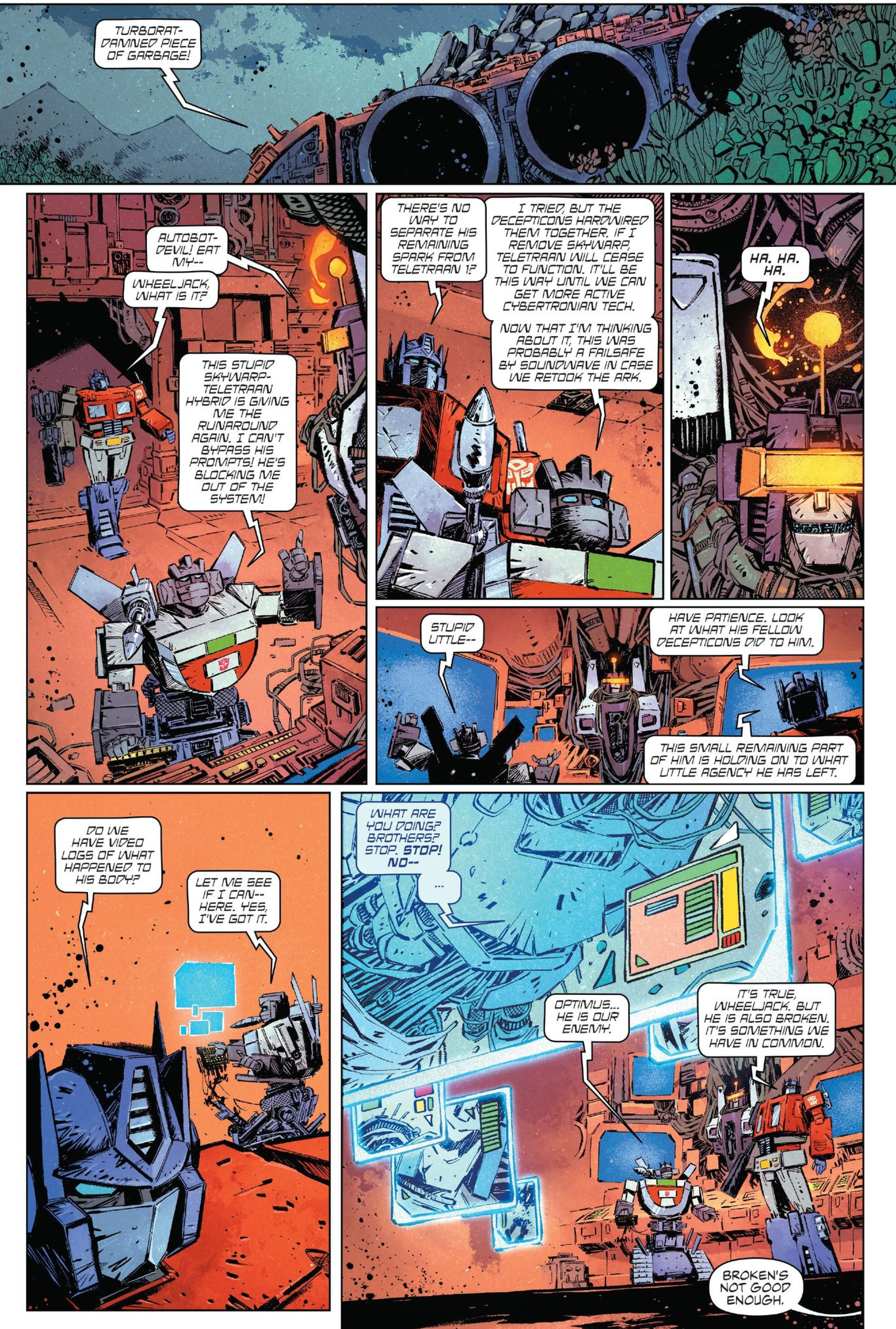

HEY, CARLY. HI, SPIKE.
OH, HEY.
ARCEE TOLD ME YOU GUYS WERE OUT HERE.
I BROUGHT SOME-- WHAT DO YOU CALL 'EM? COLAS? SEEMS LIKE IT'S THE THING TO DO NEAR BODIES OF WATER.
THANK YOU, CLIFF.
I'LL GET THIS HUMAN THING DOWN EVENTUALLY. CARLY?
CARLY, COME ON.
STAY OUT OF IT, SPIKE.
HE SAVED YOU, DIDN'T HE? FROM LAZERBEAM?
LASERBEAK.
I'M NOT NOT TALKING TO YOU, CLIFF. IT'S JUST...
YOU HAD A CHANCE TO STOP STARSCREAM FOR GOOD. THINK HOW MANY PEOPLE HE'S MURDERED HERE ALREADY. HE MURDERED YOUR YELLOW FRIEND.
BUMBLEBEE.
YOU HAD THE POWER TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT, AND YOU DID NOTHING.
HOW CAN I TRUST YOU NOW?

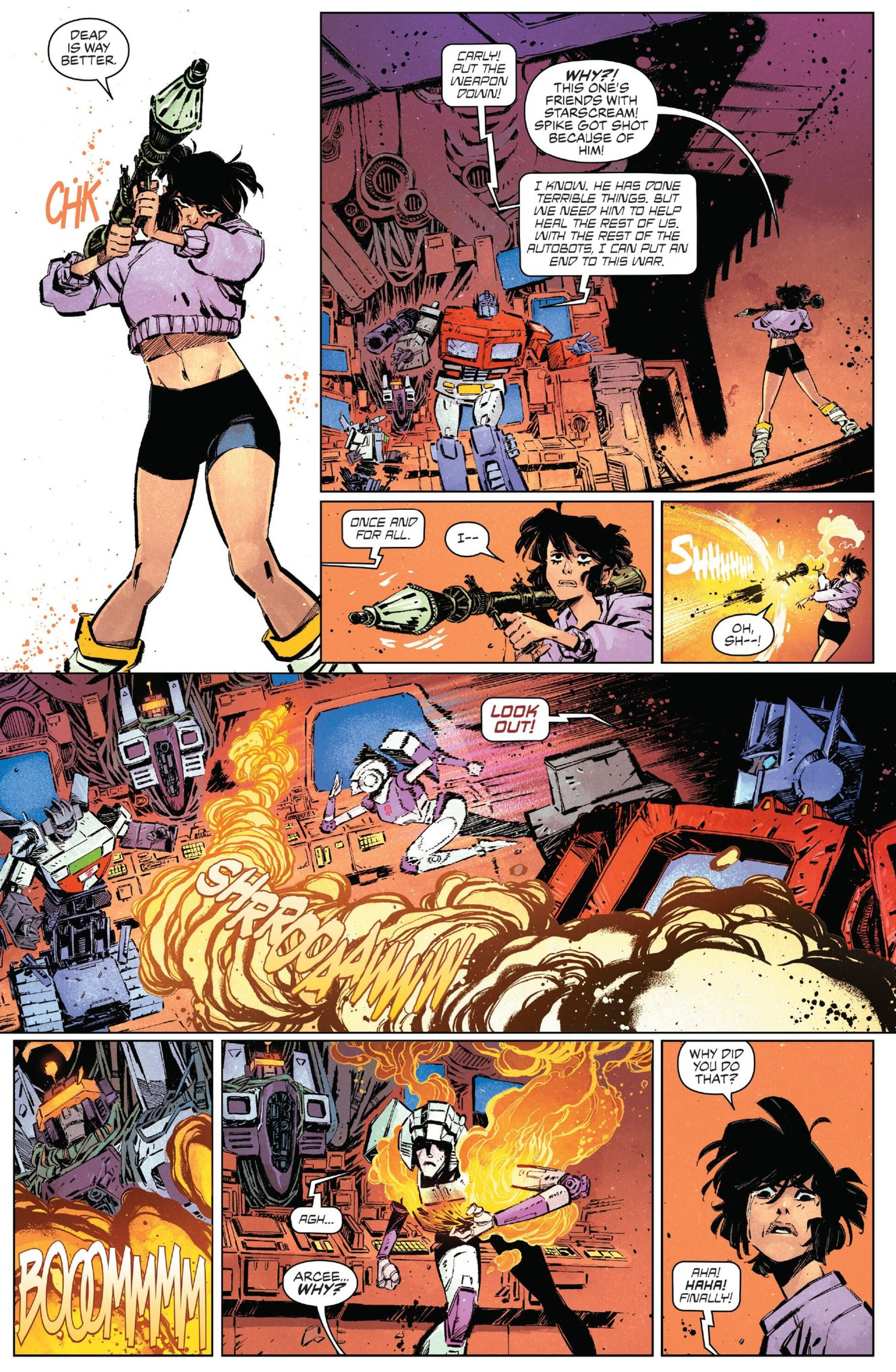

CYBERTRON.
PRIMUS BE DAMNED! I CAN'T FIND THE WAY OUT OF THIS PLACE! I SWEAR THIS IS THE WAY I CAME...
HKKKK--
HANG ON, OLD FRIEND, I'M GOING TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE.
NO...NO... PLEASE
WHAT IS IT?
OVER A 150 YEARS OF TORTURE... DAY AND NIGHT... ELITA...KILL ME.
KILL ME.
I'M SORRY IT TOOK SO LONG TO FIND YOU. BUT I'M HERE NOW. AND I'M NOT LETTING YOU GO YET.
BUT IF WE GET TAKEN... YES.
I PROMISE.
I WILL END **BOTH** OUR SPARKS MYSELF.

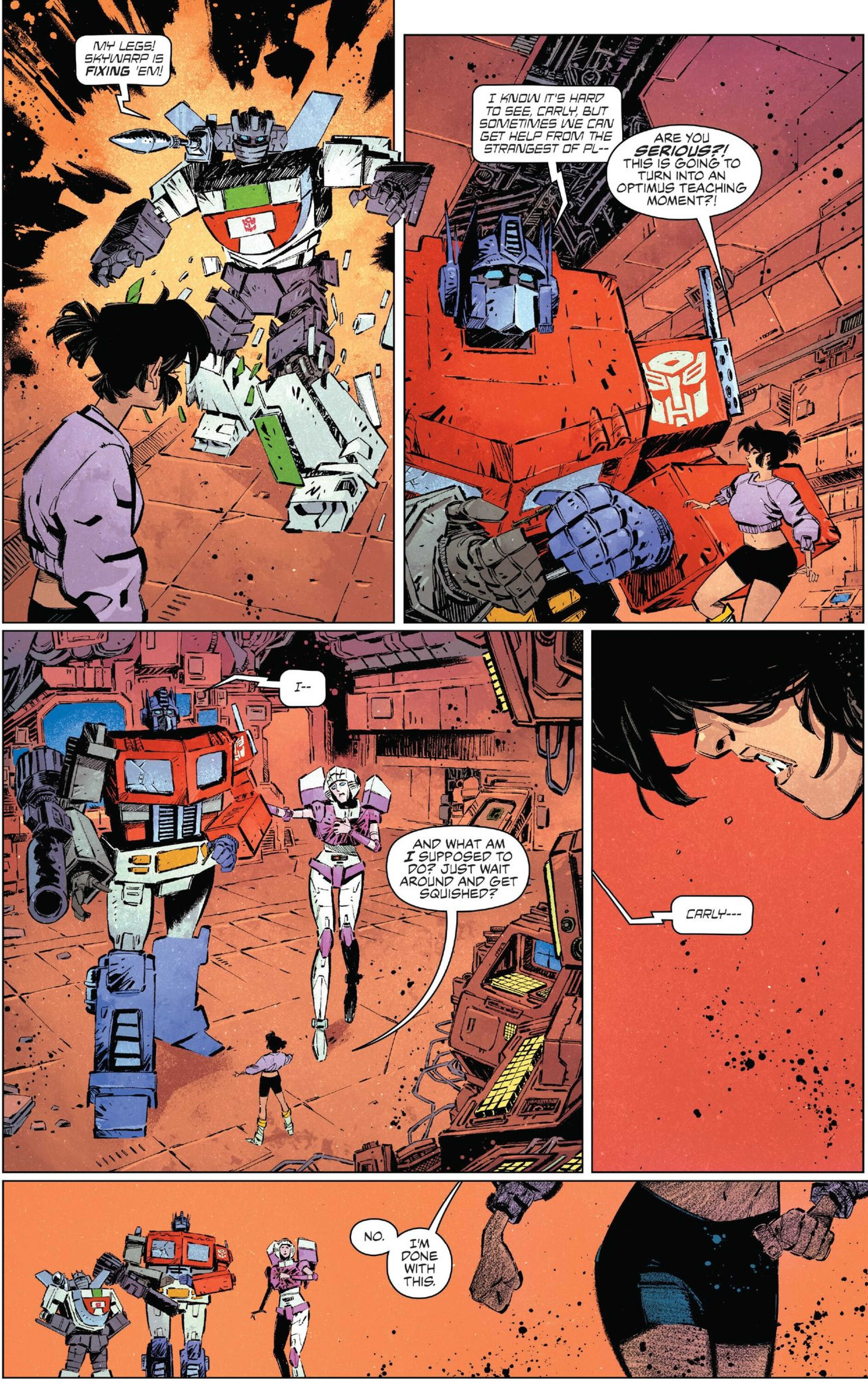

THE U.S.S. HENRY HARRISSON. PACIFIC OCEAN.
CAPTAIN! TWO UNIDENTIFIED BOGEYS COMING IN HOT, NOT RESPONDING TO OUR HAILS!
BATTLE STATIONS. GET OUR BIRDS IN THE AIR.
I'VE NEVER SEEN SOMETHING MOVE SO FAST--
AROOOO AROOOO AROOO
SKREEEEEE
VIPER 2 AND 7 LAUNCHING NOW--
THIS WHAT THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT WHEN THEY SAID "ROBOTS"?
BOGEYS CLOSING IN--
SKRAWAAAAA
WHAT THE--?!
WHA-WHAT *IS* THAT THING?!
JUST *SHOOT* IT, ACOSTA!!!!
BOOM
DO NOT SINK THE SHIP YET, THUNDERCRACKER. NOT UNTIL WE ARE OVER OUR DESTINATION.

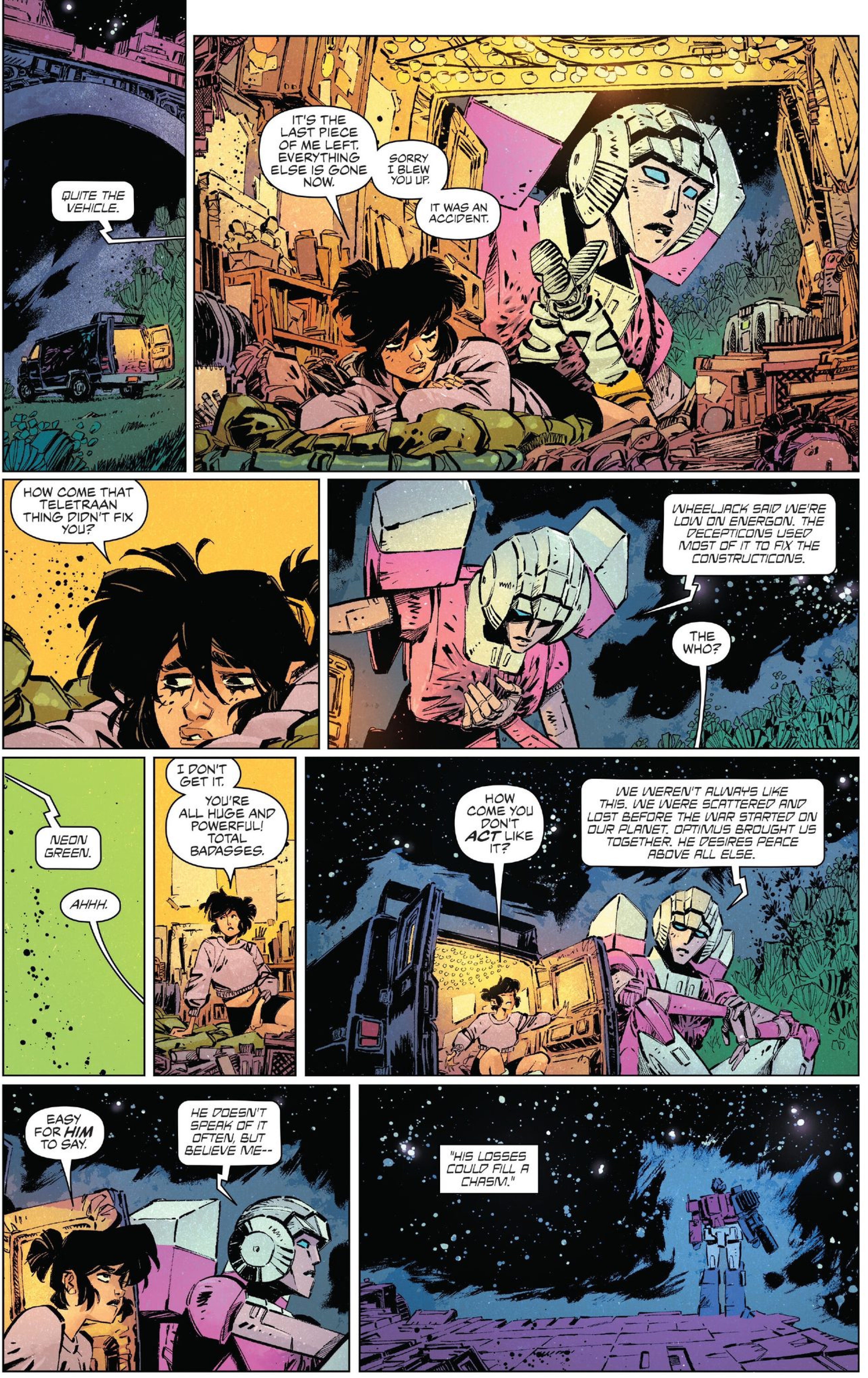

ROGER THAT, COMMANDER!
ABANDON SHIP! TO THE LIFEBOATS, HURRY!
HA! HOW STRANGE! CREATURES USING THINGS MADE OF METAL TO GET AROUND!
WHAT'S IT LIKE, HUMAN?
TO BE SO DEPENDENT ON THINGS OUTSIDE OF YOUR OWN SELF?
POW
P-PLEASE! OH GOD! I HAVE A FAMILY-- PLEASE--!

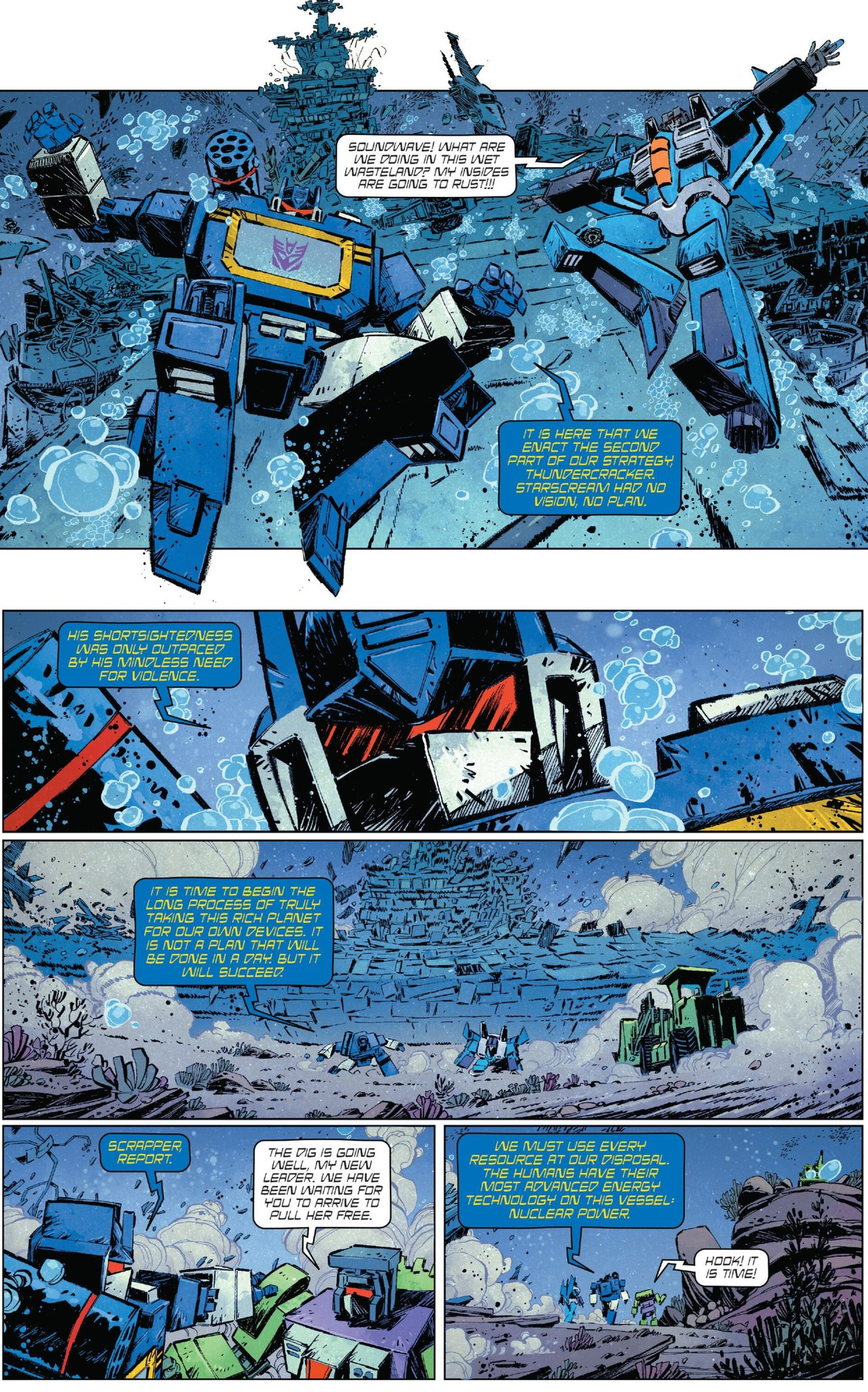

I PITY YOUR FRAGILITY, SMALL THING.
BE ON YOUR WAY.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, THUNDERCRACKER?
THEY CAN'T HURT US, LEADER. I--
IT'S TRUE. THEY ARE PATHETIC. BUT THEY WILL TELL THEIR SUPERIORS ABOUT WHAT TRANSPIRED HERE. AND THERE CAN BE NO WITNESSES.
BUT--
REGRETTABLE.
BUT NECESSARY.

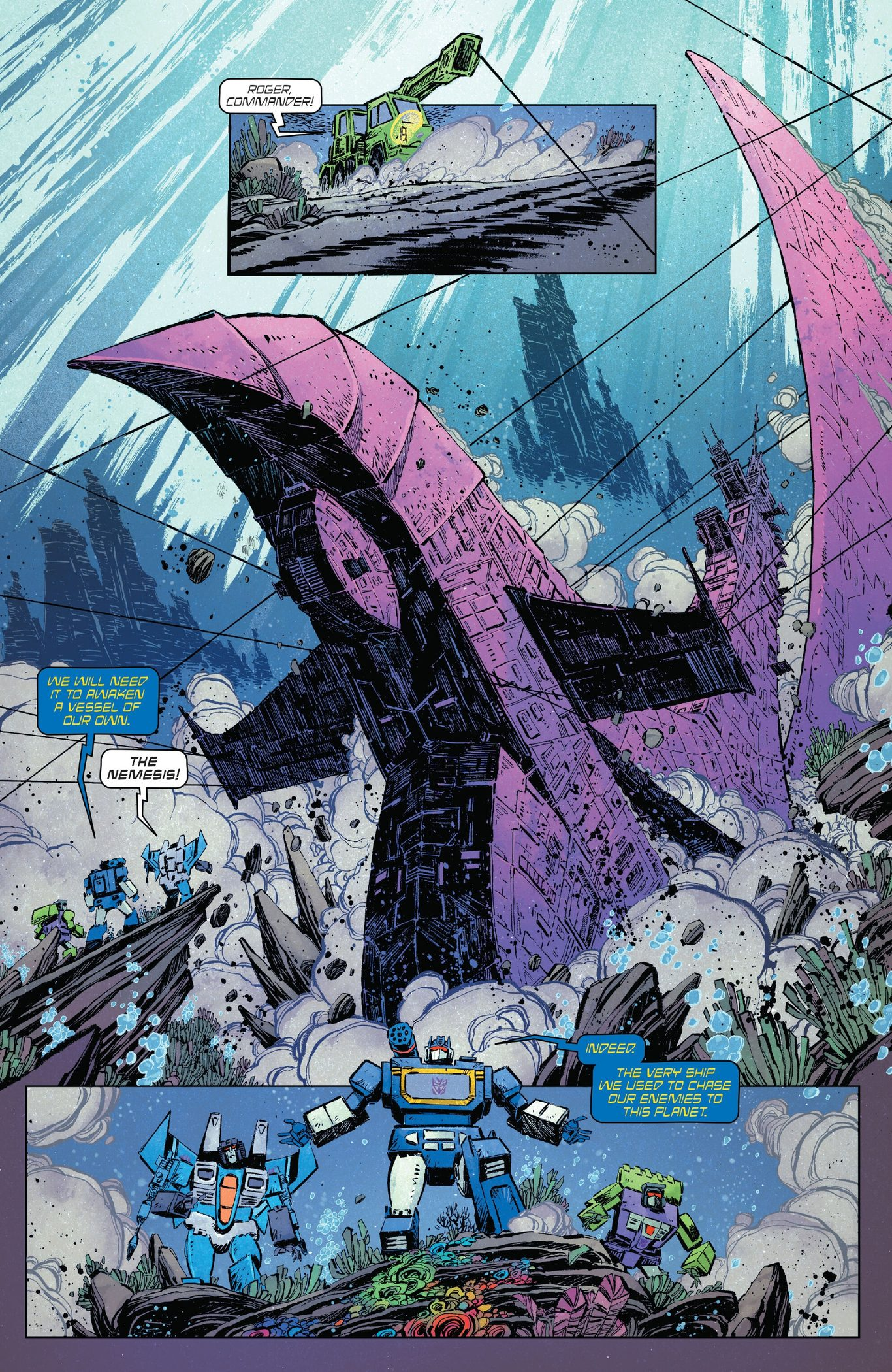

TURBORAT-DAMNED PIECE OF GARBAGE!
AUTOBOT-DEVIL! EAT MY--
WHEELJACK, WHAT IS IT?
THIS STUPID SKYWARP-TELETRAAN HYBRID IS GIVING ME THE RUNAROUND AGAIN. I CAN'T BYPASS HIS PROMPTS! HE'S BLOCKING ME OUT OF THE SYSTEM!
THERE'S NO WAY TO SEPARATE HIS REMAINING SPARK FROM TELETRAAN 1?
I TRIED, BUT THE DECEPTICONS HARDWIRED THEM TOGETHER. IF I REMOVE SKYWARP, TELETRAAN WILL CEASE TO FUNCTION. IT'LL BE THIS WAY UNTIL WE CAN GET MORE ACTIVE CYBERTRONIAN TECH.
NOW THAT I'M THINKING ABOUT IT, THIS WAS PROBABLY A FAILSAFE BY SOUNDWAVE IN CASE WE RETOOK THE ARK.
HA. HA. HA.
STUPID LITTLE--
HAVE PATIENCE. LOOK AT WHAT HIS FELLOW DECEPTICONS DID TO HIM.
THIS SMALL REMAINING PART OF HIM IS HOLDING ON TO WHAT LITTLE AGENCY HE HAS LEFT.
DO WE HAVE VIDEO LOGS OF WHAT HAPPENED TO HIS BODY?
LET ME SEE IF I CAN-- HERE. YES, I'VE GOT IT.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? BROTHERS? STOP. STOP! NO--
...
OPTIMUS... HE IS OUR ENEMY.
IT'S TRUE, WHEELJACK. BUT HE IS ALSO BROKEN. IT'S SOMETHING WE HAVE IN COMMON.
BROKEN'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH.

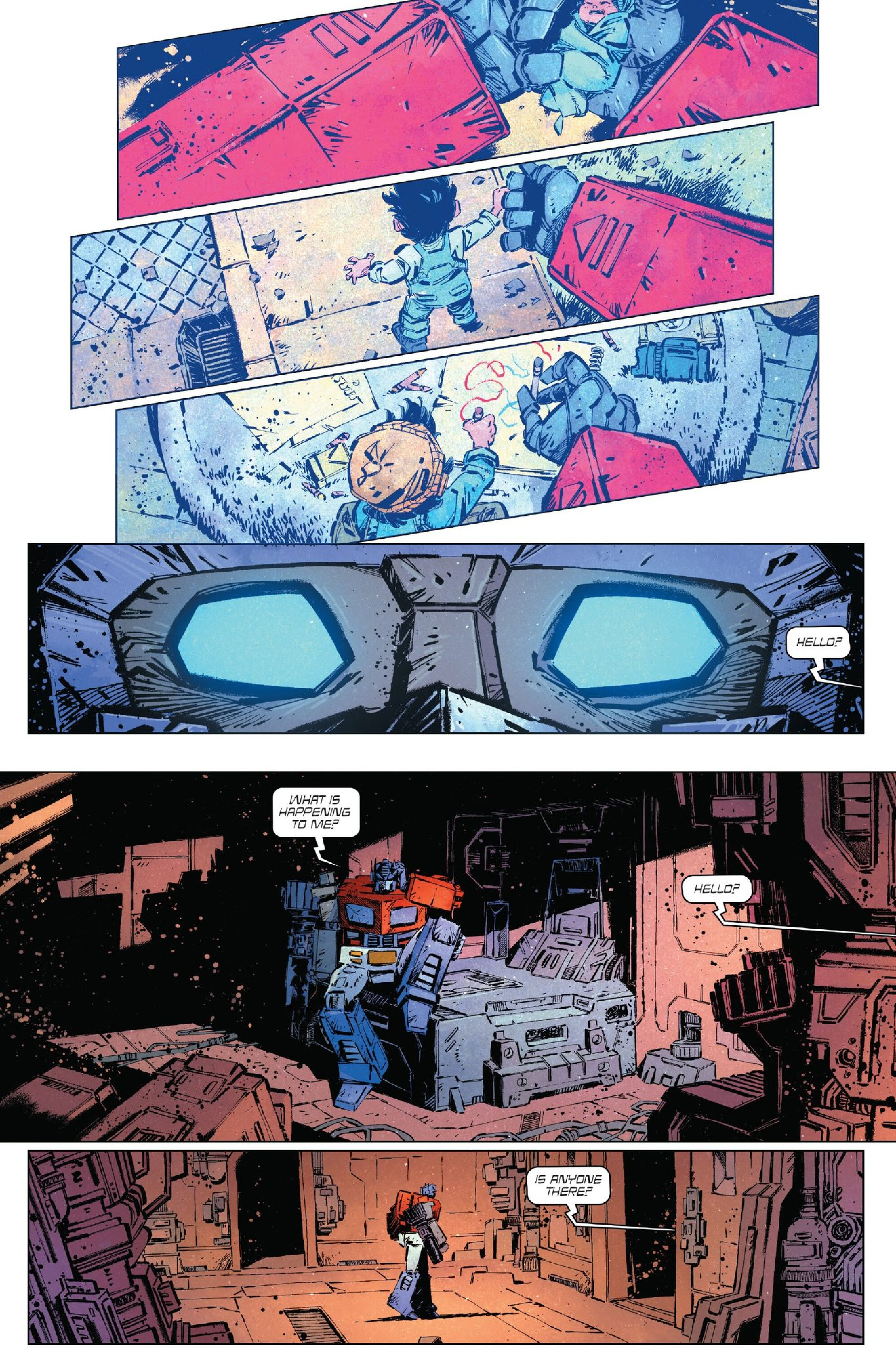

DEAD IS WAY BETTER.
CHK
CARLY! PUT THE WEAPON DOWN!
WHY?! THIS ONE'S FRIENDS WITH STARSCREAM! SPIKE GOT SHOT BECAUSE OF HIM!
I KNOW. HE HAS DONE TERRIBLE THINGS. BUT WE NEED HIM TO HELP HEAL THE REST OF US. WITH THE REST OF THE AUTOBOTS, I CAN PUT AN END TO THIS WAR.
ONCE AND FOR ALL.
I--
SHHHHHHH
OH, SH--!
LOOK OUT!
SHRROOOAMMM
BOOOMMMM
AGH...
ARCEE... WHY?
WHY DID YOU DO THAT?
AHA! HAHA! FINALLY!

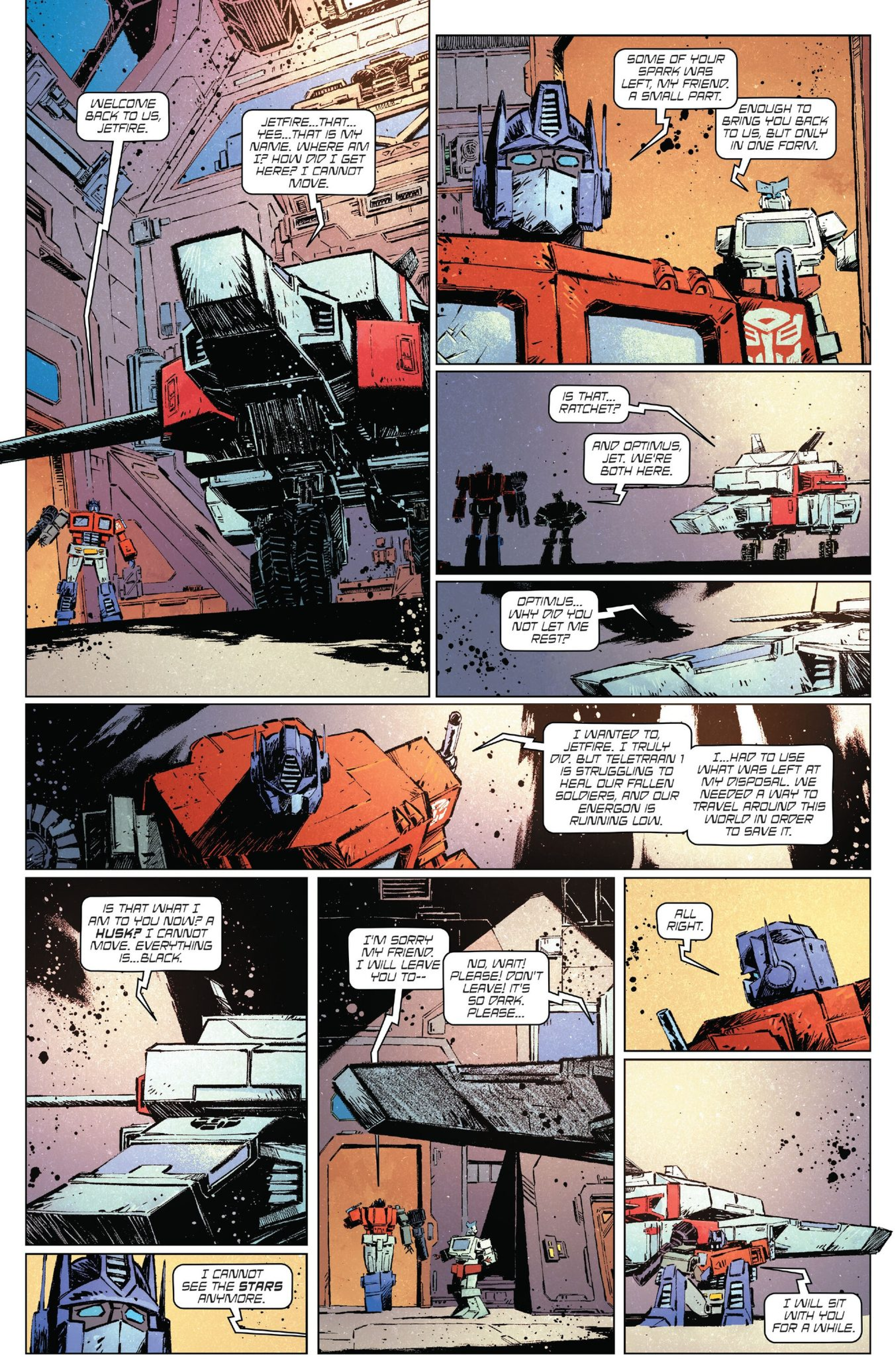

MY LEGS! SKYWARP IS **FIXING** 'EM!
I KNOW IT'S HARD TO SEE, CARLY, BUT SOMETIMES WE CAN GET HELP FROM THE STRANGEST OF PL--
ARE YOU **SERIOUS?!** THIS IS GOING TO TURN INTO AN OPTIMUS TEACHING MOMENT?!
I--
AND WHAT AM ***I*** SUPPOSED TO DO? JUST WAIT AROUND AND GET SQUISHED?
CARLY---
NO.
I'M DONE WITH THIS.

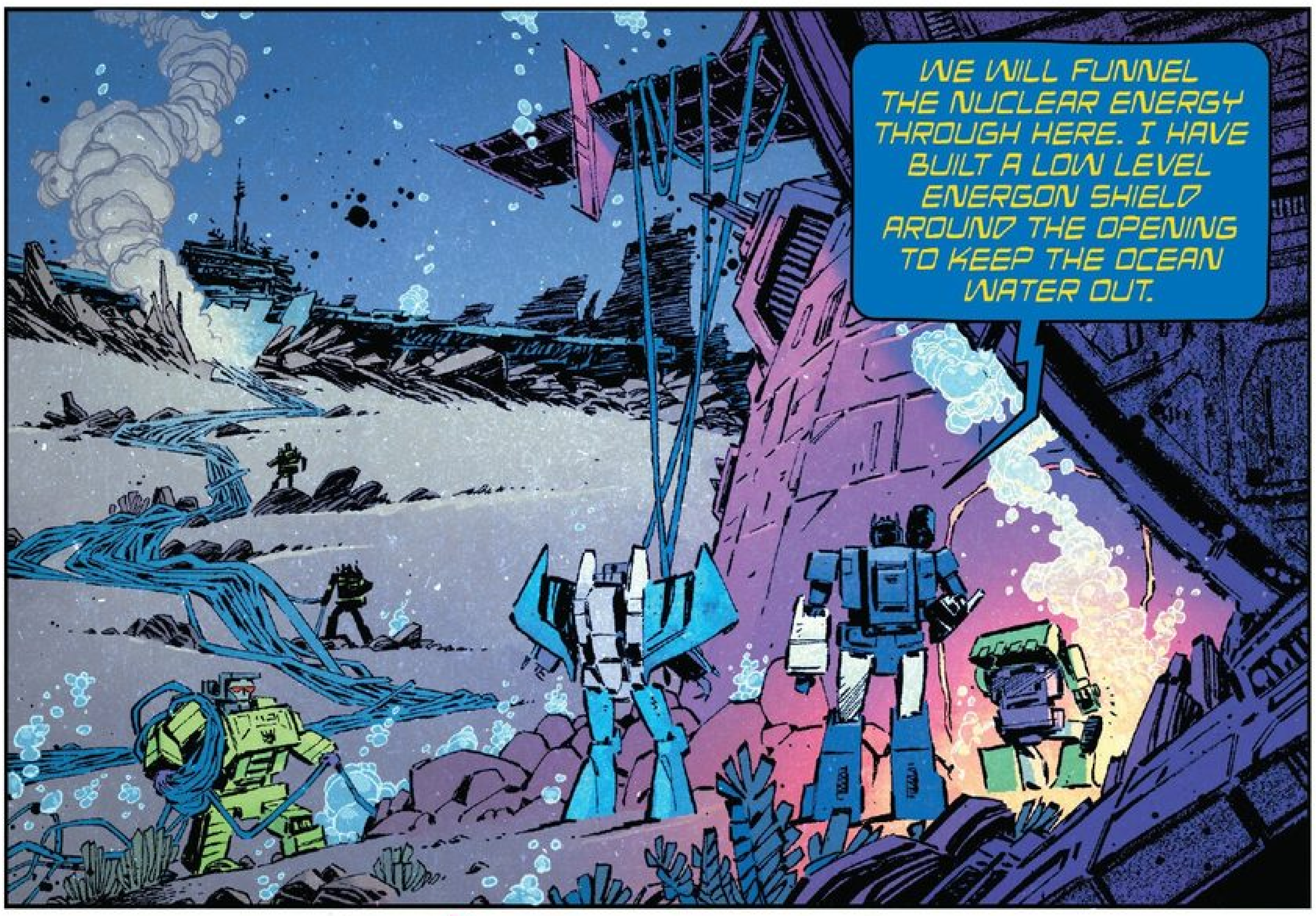

QUITE THE VEHICLE.
IT'S THE LAST PIECE OF ME LEFT. EVERYTHING ELSE IS GONE NOW.
SORRY I BLEW YOU UP.
IT WAS AN ACCIDENT.
HOW COME THAT TELETRAAN THING DIDN'T FIX YOU?
WHEELJACK SAID WE'RE LOW ON ENERGON. THE DECEPTICONS USED MOST OF IT TO FIX THE CONSTRUCTICONS.
THE WHO?
NEON GREEN.
AHHH.
I DON'T GET IT.
YOU'RE ALL HUGE AND POWERFUL! TOTAL BADASSES.
HOW COME YOU DON'T **ACT** LIKE IT?
WE WEREN'T ALWAYS LIKE THIS. WE WERE SCATTERED AND LOST BEFORE THE WAR STARTED ON OUR PLANET. OPTIMUS BROUGHT US TOGETHER. HE DESIRES PEACE ABOVE ALL ELSE.
EASY FOR **HIM** TO SAY.
HE DOESN'T SPEAK OF IT OFTEN, BUT BELIEVE ME--
"HIS LOSSES COULD FILL A CHASM."

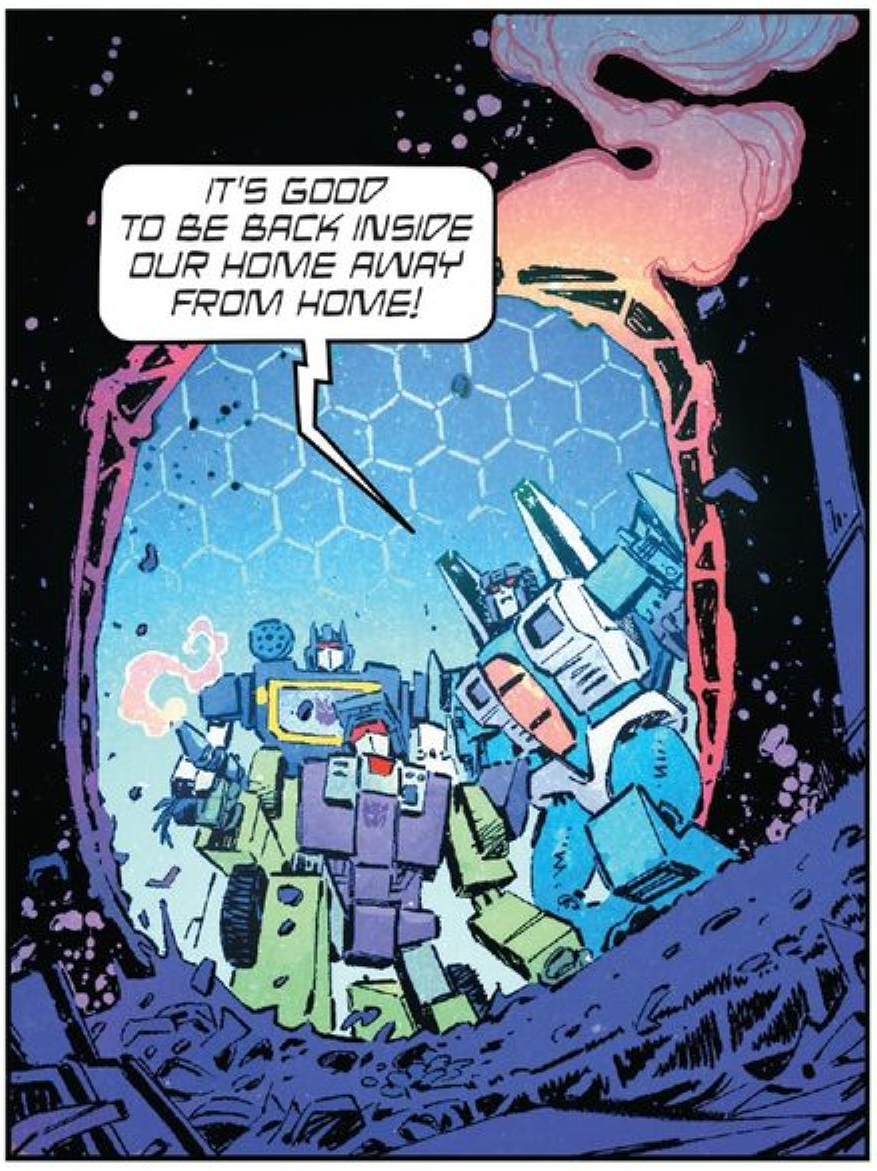

SOUNDWAVE! WHAT ARE WE DOING IN THIS WET WASTELAND? MY INSIDES ARE GOING TO RUST!!!
IT IS HERE THAT WE ENACT THE SECOND PART OF OUR STRATEGY, THUNDERCRACKER. STARSCREAM HAD NO VISION, NO PLAN.
HIS SHORTSIGHTEDNESS WAS ONLY OUTPACED BY HIS MINDLESS NEED FOR VIOLENCE.
IT IS TIME TO BEGIN THE LONG PROCESS OF TRULY TAKING THIS RICH PLANET FOR OUR OWN DEVICES. IT IS NOT A PLAN THAT WILL BE DONE IN A DAY. BUT IT WILL SUCCEED.
SCRAPPER, REPORT.
THE DIG IS GOING WELL, MY NEW LEADER. WE HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU TO ARRIVE TO PULL HER FREE.
WE MUST USE EVERY RESOURCE AT OUR DISPOSAL. THE HUMANS HAVE THEIR MOST ADVANCED ENERGY TECHNOLOGY ON THIS VESSEL: NUCLEAR POWER.
HOOK! IT IS TIME!

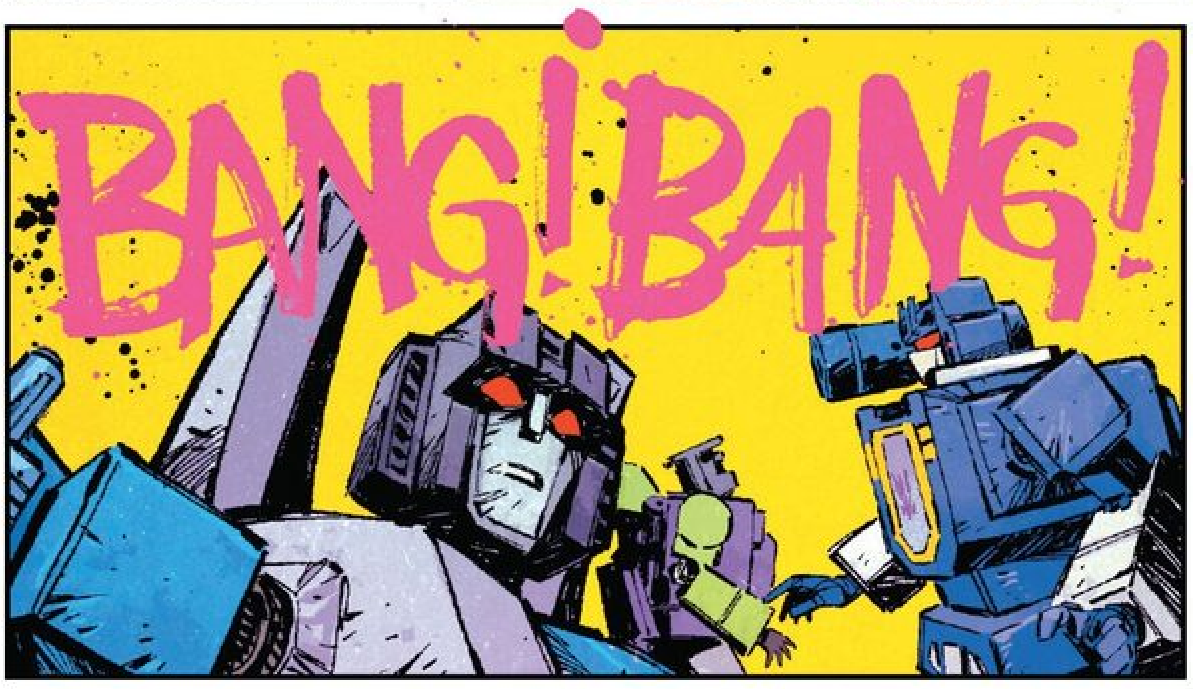

ROGER, COMMANDER!
WE WILL NEED IT TO AWAKEN A VESSEL OF OUR OWN.
THE NEMESIS!
INDEED.
THE VERY SHIP WE USED TO CHASE OUR ENEMIES TO THIS PLANET.

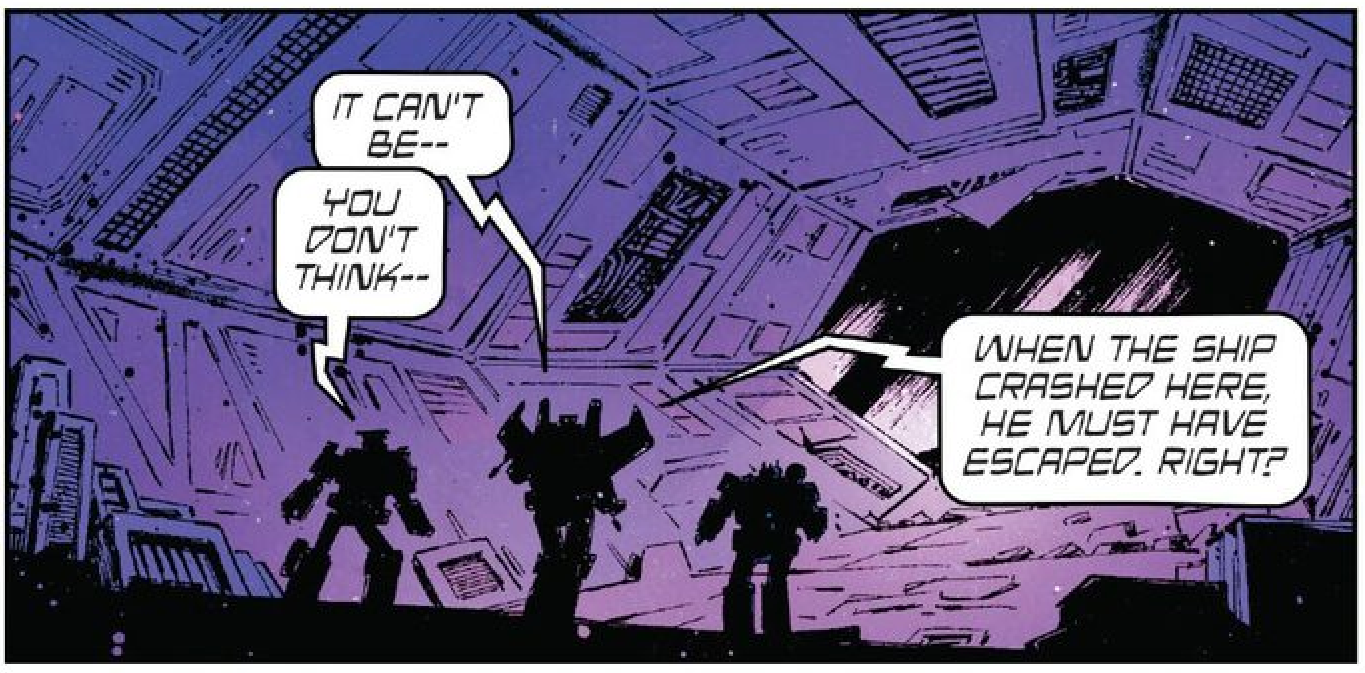

HELLO?
WHAT IS HAPPENING TO ME?
HELLO?
IS ANYONE THERE?

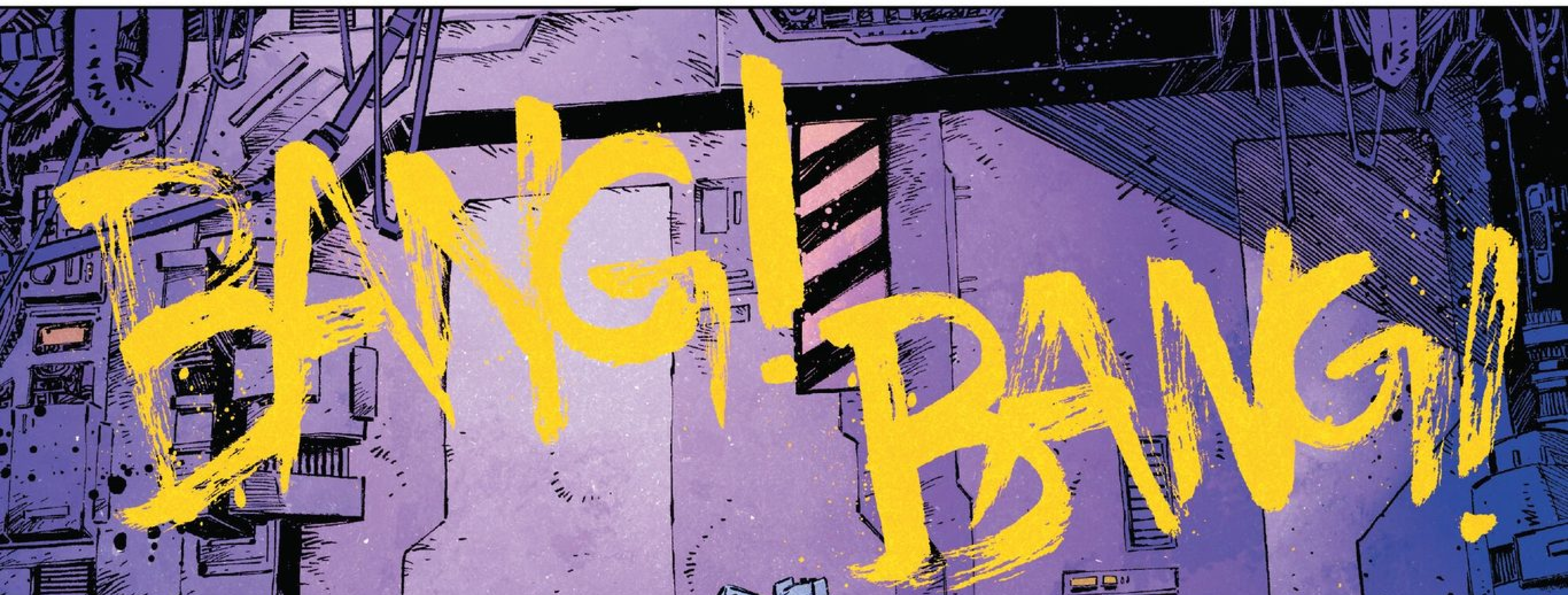

WELCOME BACK TO US, JETFIRE.
JETFIRE...THAT... YES...THAT IS MY NAME. WHERE AM I? HOW DID I GET HERE? I CANNOT MOVE.
SOME OF YOUR SPARK WAS LEFT, MY FRIEND. A SMALL PART.
ENOUGH TO BRING YOU BACK TO US, BUT ONLY IN ONE FORM.
IS THAT... RATCHET?
AND OPTIMUS, JET. WE'RE BOTH HERE.
OPTIMUS... WHY DID YOU NOT LET ME REST?
I WANTED TO, JETFIRE. I TRULY DID. BUT TELETRAAN 1 IS STRUGGLING TO HEAL OUR FALLEN SOLDIERS, AND OUR ENERGON IS RUNNING LOW.
I...HAD TO USE WHAT WAS LEFT AT MY DISPOSAL. WE NEEDED A WAY TO TRAVEL AROUND THIS WORLD IN ORDER TO SAVE IT.
IS THAT WHAT I AM TO YOU NOW? A **HUSK?** I CANNOT MOVE. EVERYTHING IS...BLACK.
I CANNOT SEE THE **STARS** ANYMORE.
I'M SORRY MY FRIEND. I WILL LEAVE YOU TO--
NO, WAIT! PLEASE! DON'T LEAVE! IT'S SO DARK. PLEASE...
ALL RIGHT.
I WILL SIT WITH YOU FOR A WHILE.

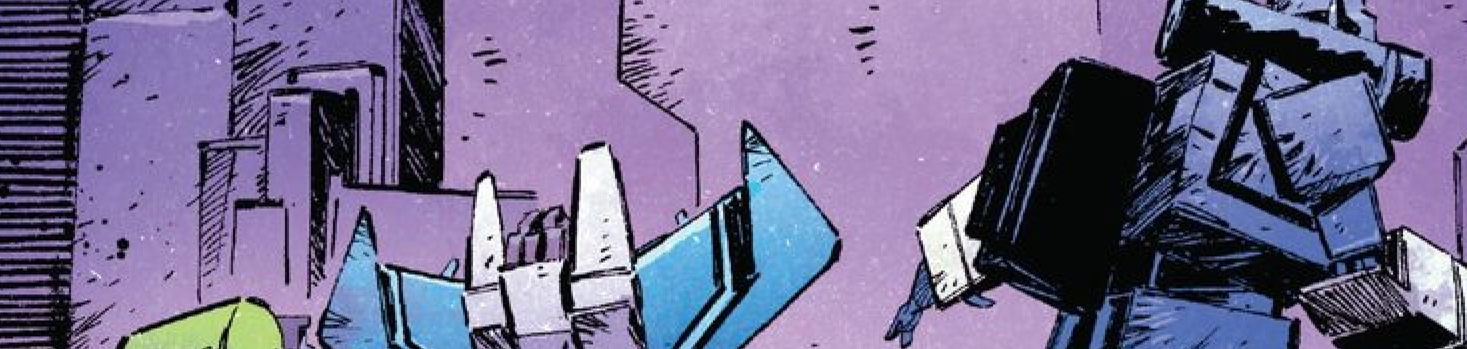

WE WILL FUNNEL THE NUCLEAR ENERGY THROUGH HERE. I HAVE BUILT A LOW LEVEL ENERGON SHIELD AROUND THE OPENING TO KEEP THE OCEAN WATER OUT.

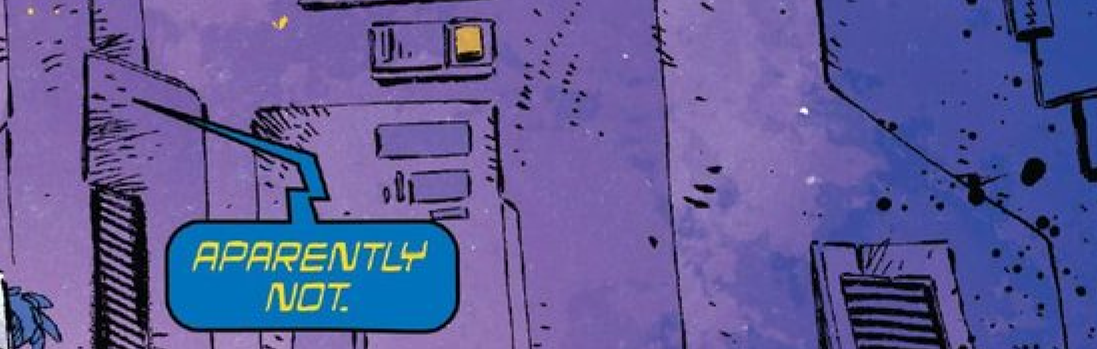

IT'S GOOD TO BE BACK INSIDE OUR HOME AWAY FROM HOME!

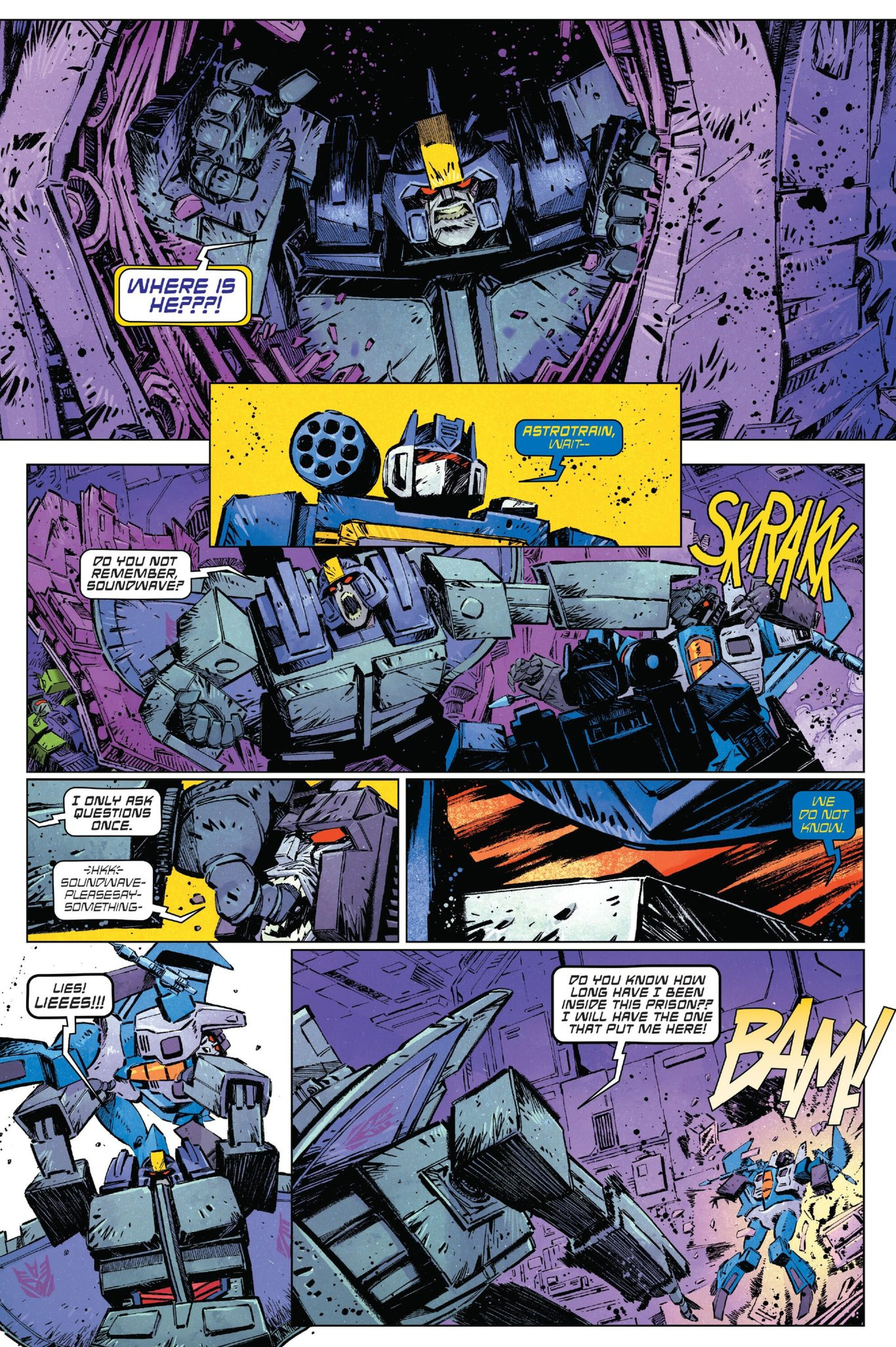

BANG! BANG!

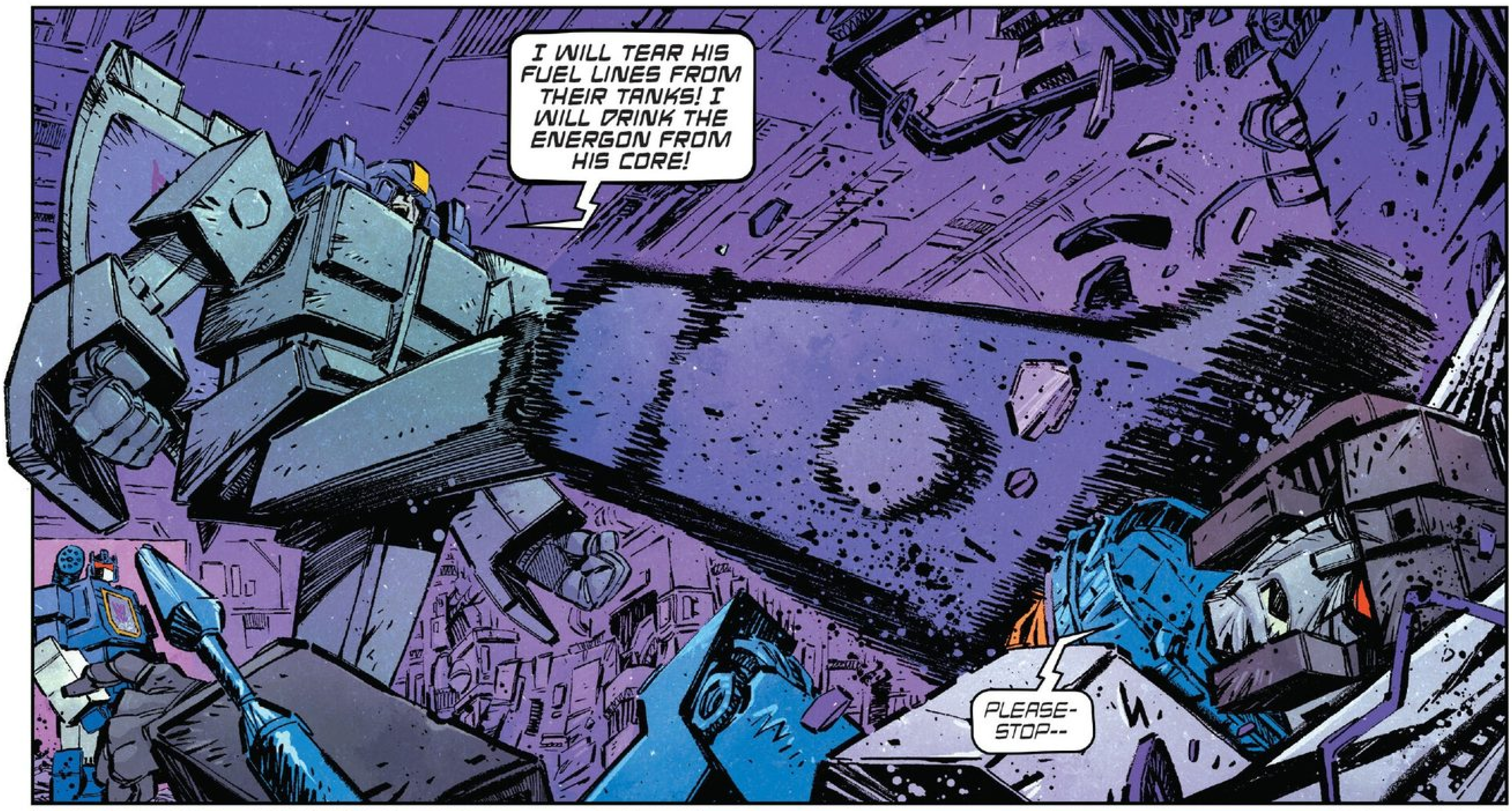

IT CAN'T BE--
YOU DON'T THINK--
WHEN THE SHIP CRASHED HERE, HE MUST HAVE ESCAPED. RIGHT?

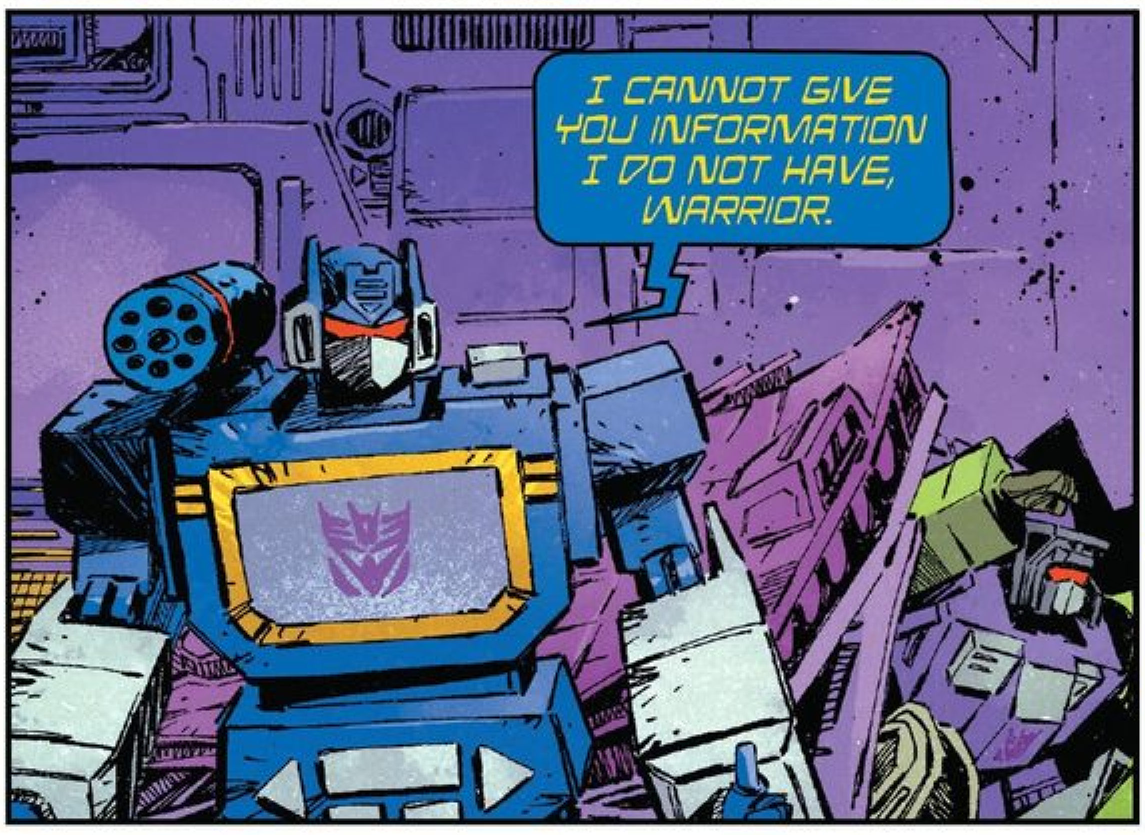

BANG! BANG!
APPARENTLY NOT.

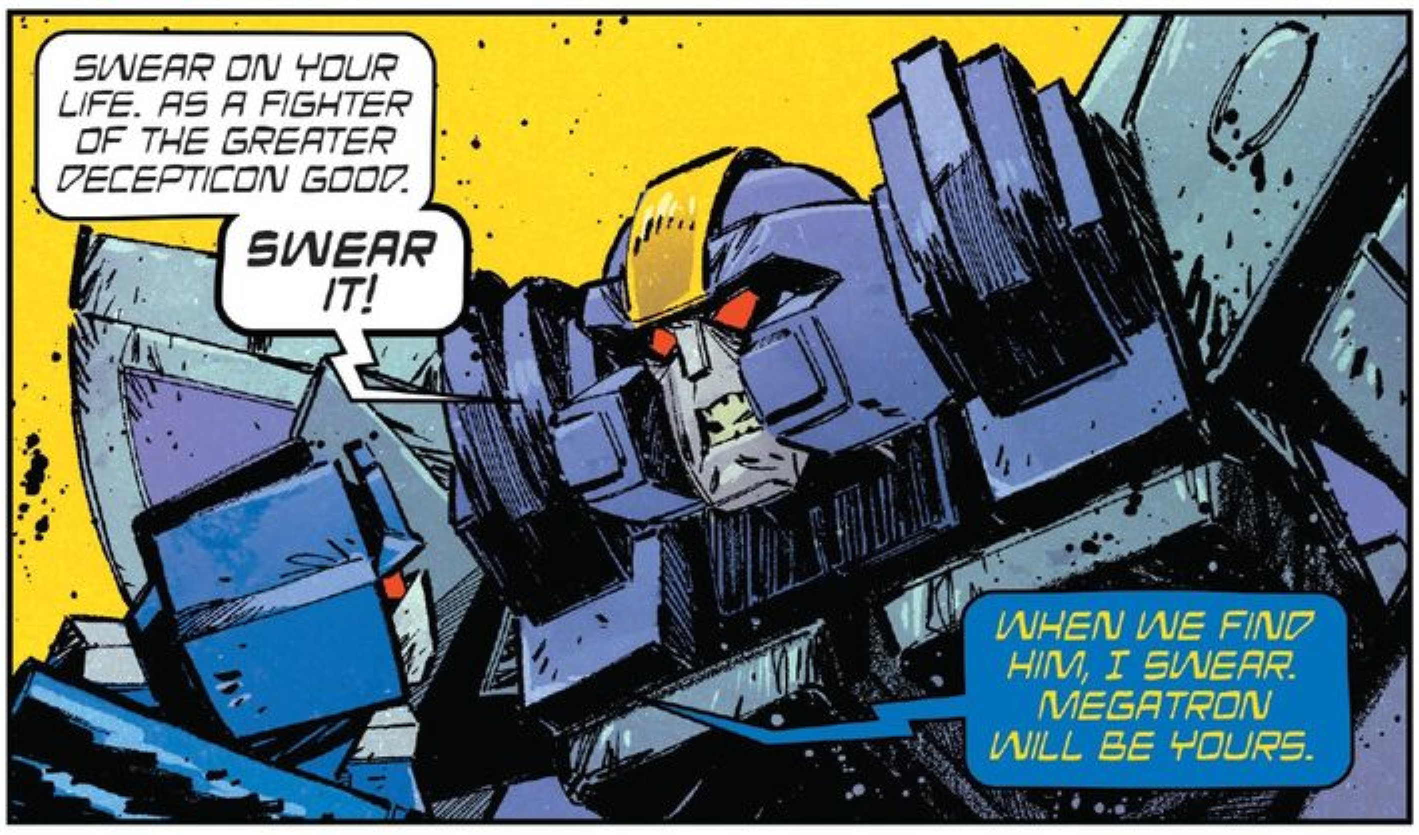

DO WE..?
WE NEED ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET RIGHT NOW, THUNDERCRACKER.
COMMANDER... ARE YOU SURE?

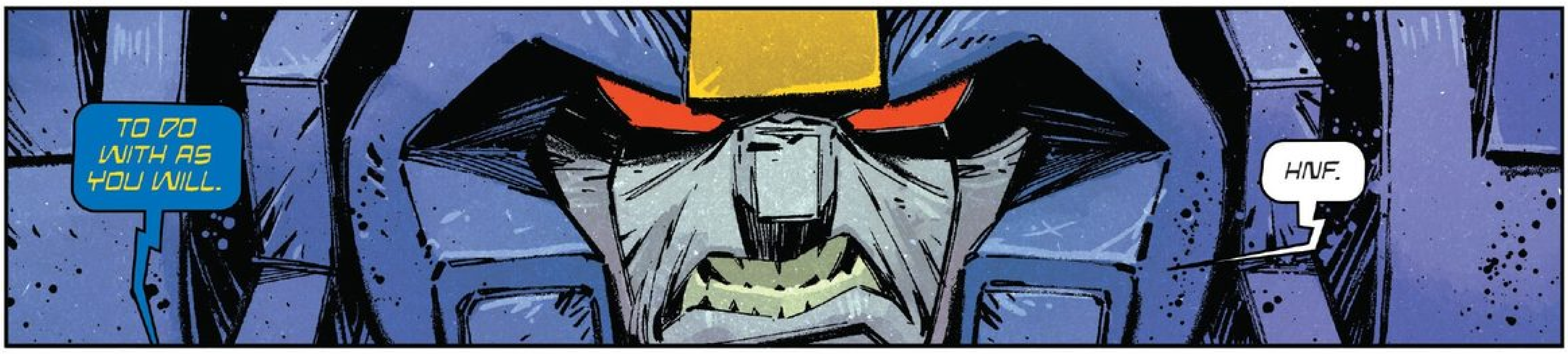

OPEN IT.
BEEP

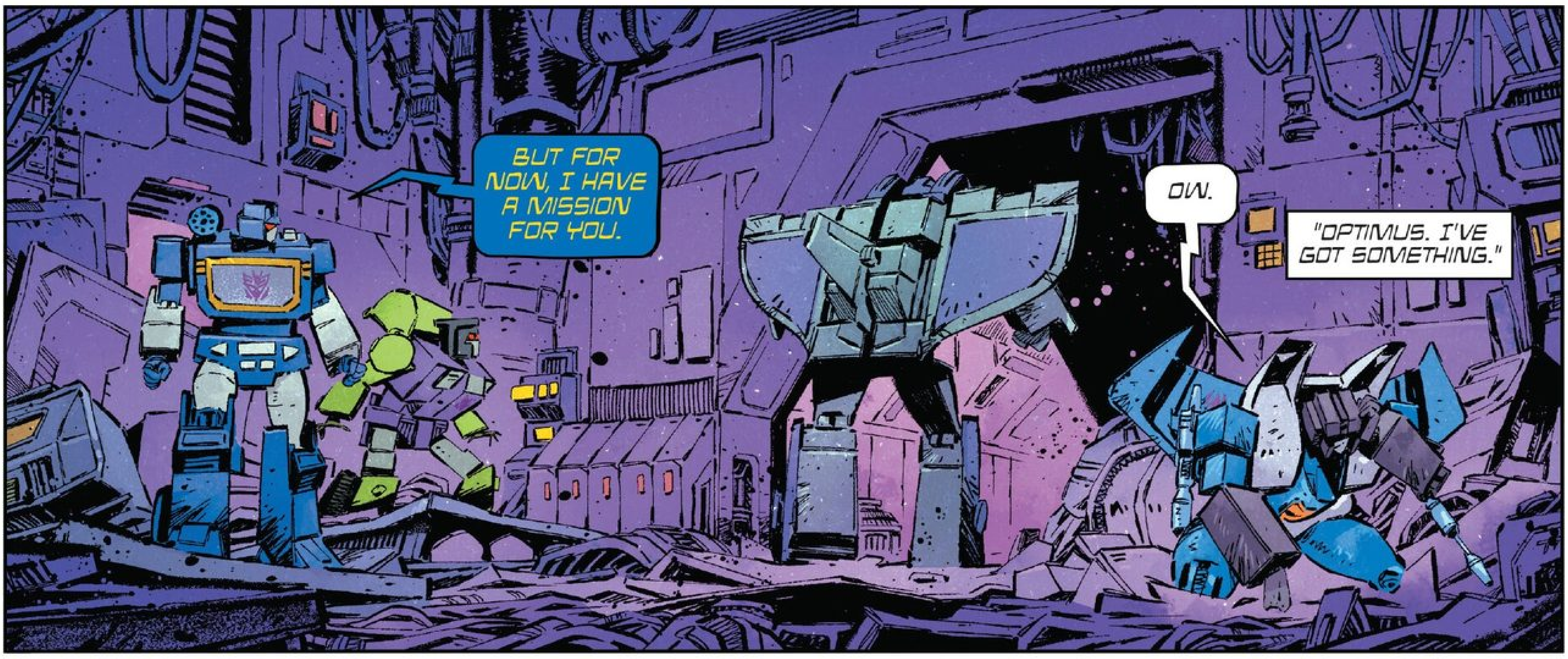

WHERE IS HE???!
ASTROTRAIN, WAIT--
SKRAKK
DO YOU NOT REMEMBER, SOUNDWAVE?
I ONLY ASK QUESTIONS ONCE.
-HKK- SOUNDWAVE- PLEASESAY- SOMETHING-
WE DO NOT KNOW.
LIES! LIEEES!!!
DO YOU KNOW HOW LONG HAVE I BEEN INSIDE THIS PRISON?? I WILL HAVE THE ONE THAT PUT ME HERE!
BAM!

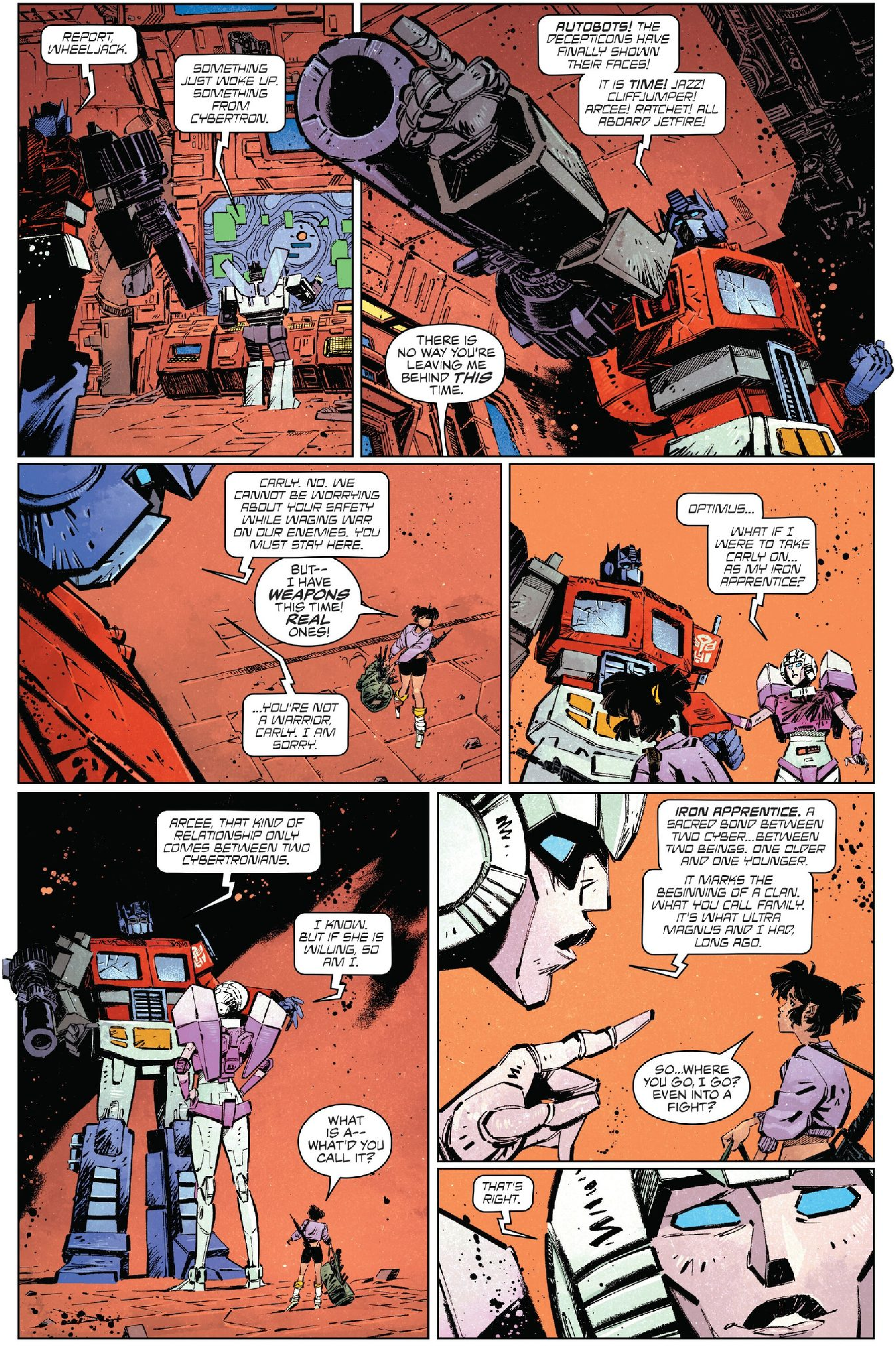

I WILL TEAR HIS FUEL LINES FROM THEIR TANKS! I WILL DRINK THE ENERGON FROM HIS CORE!
PLEASE-STOP--

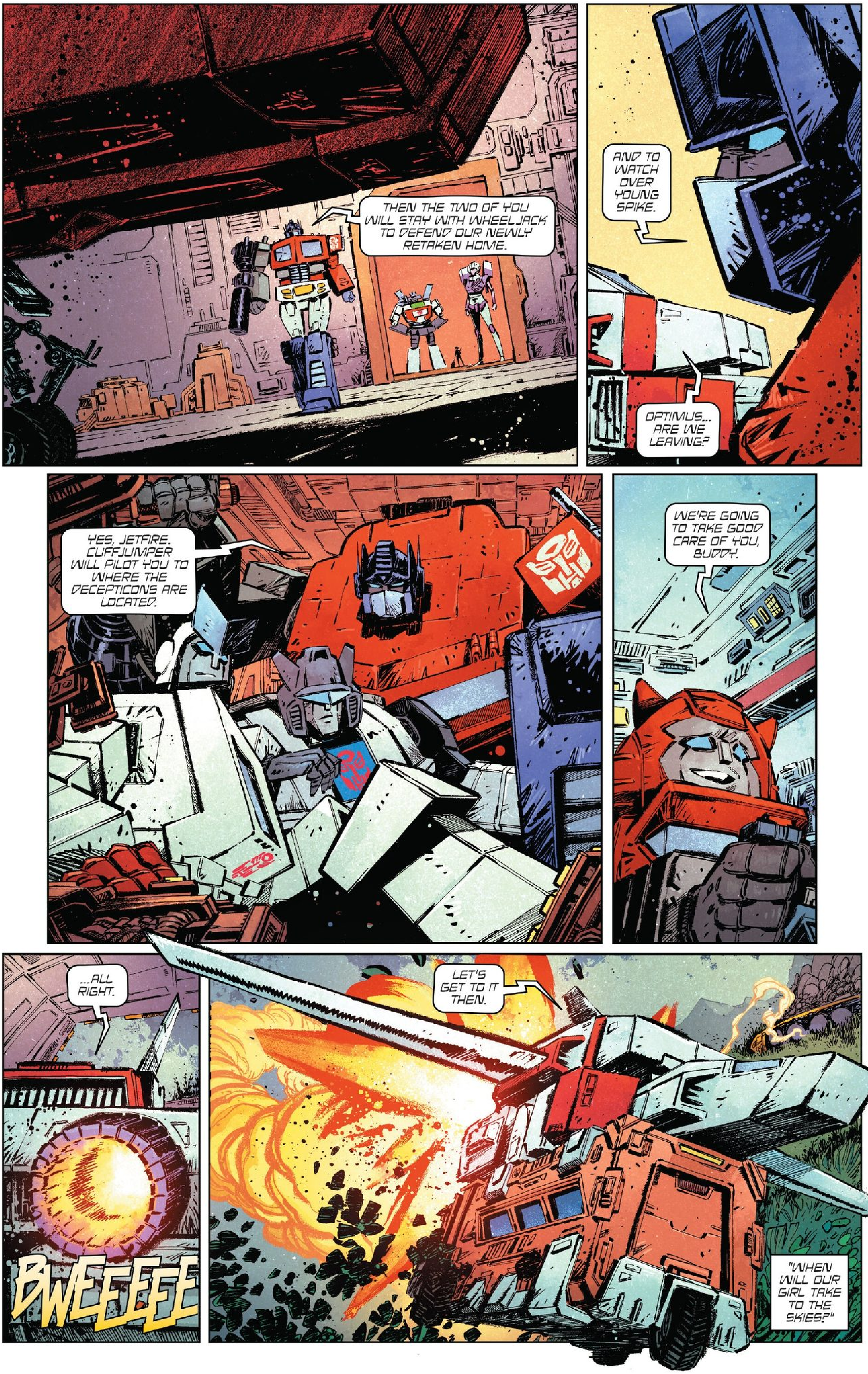

I CANNOT GIVE YOU INFORMATION I DO NOT HAVE, WARRIOR.

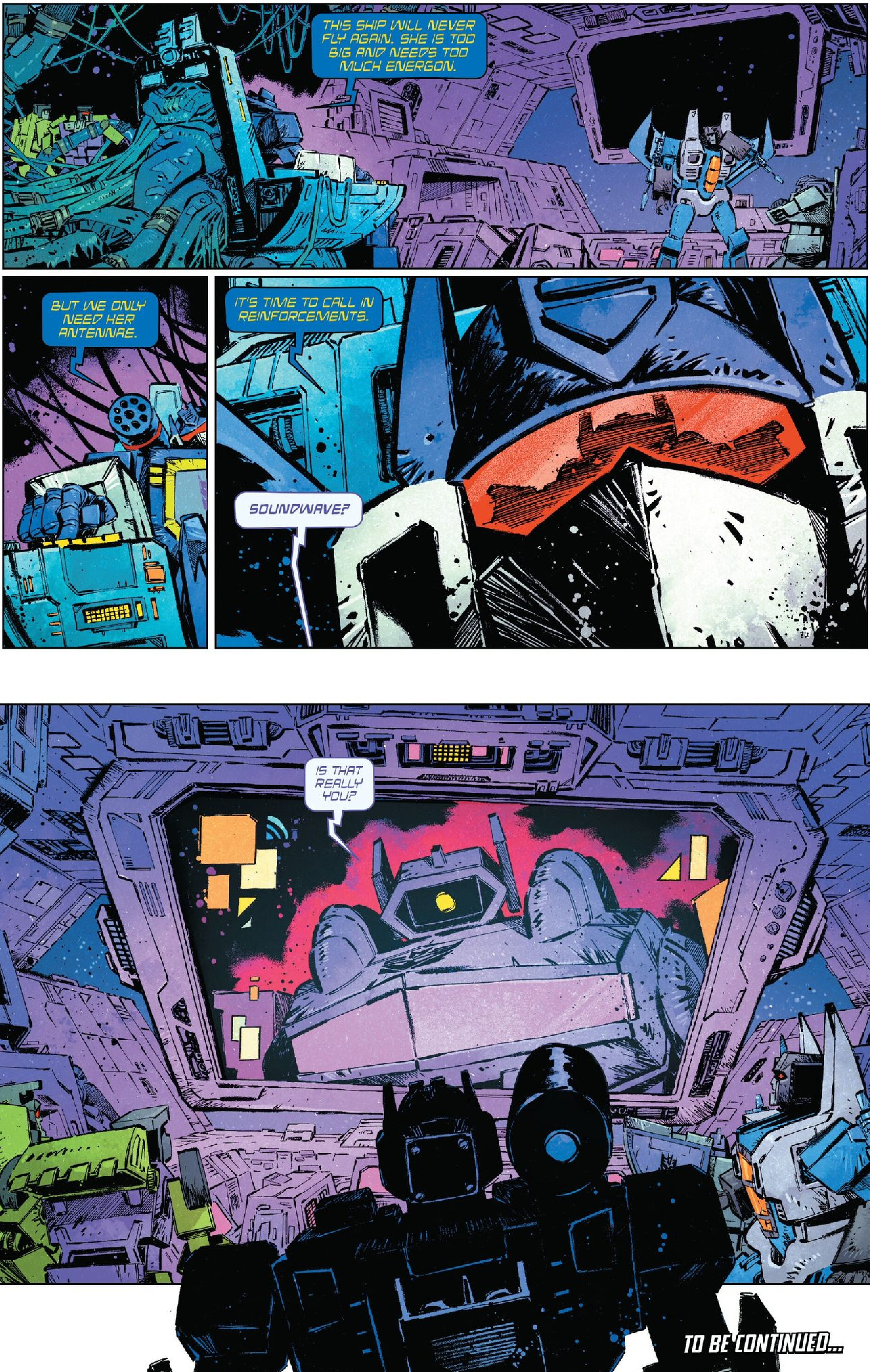

SWEAR ON YOUR LIFE. AS A FIGHTER OF THE GREATER DECEPTICON GOOD.
SWEAR IT!
WHEN WE FIND HIM, I SWEAR. MEGATRON WILL BE YOURS.


TO DO WITH AS YOU WILL.
HNF.


BUT FOR NOW, I HAVE A MISSION FOR YOU.
OW.
"OPTIMUS. I'VE GOT SOMETHING."


REPORT, WHEELJACK.
SOMETHING JUST WOKE UP. SOMETHING FROM CYBERTRON.
AUTOBOTS! THE DECEPTICONS HAVE FINALLY SHOWN THEIR FACES!
IT IS TIME! JAZZ! CLIFFJUMPER! ARCEE! RATCHET! ALL ABOARD JETFIRE!
THERE IS NO WAY YOU'RE LEAVING ME BEHIND THIS TIME.
CARLY. NO. WE CANNOT BE WORRYING ABOUT YOUR SAFETY WHILE WAGING WAR ON OUR ENEMIES. YOU MUST STAY HERE.
BUT-- I HAVE WEAPONS THIS TIME! REAL ONES!
...YOU'RE NOT A WARRIOR, CARLY. I AM SORRY.
OPTIMUS...
WHAT IF I WERE TO TAKE CARLY ON... AS MY IRON APPRENTICE?
ARCEE, THAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP ONLY COMES BETWEEN TWO CYBERTRONIANS.
I KNOW. BUT IF SHE IS WILLING, SO AM I.
WHAT IS A-- WHAT'D YOU CALL IT?
IRON APPRENTICE. A SACRED BOND BETWEEN TWO CYBER...BETWEEN TWO BEINGS. ONE OLDER AND ONE YOUNGER.
IT MARKS THE BEGINNING OF A CLAN. WHAT YOU CALL FAMILY. IT'S WHAT ULTRA MAGNUS AND I HAD, LONG AGO.
SO...WHERE YOU GO, I GO? EVEN INTO A FIGHT?
THAT'S RIGHT.


THEN THE TWO OF YOU WILL STAY WITH WHEELJACK TO DEFEND OUR NEWLY RETAKEN HOME.
AND TO WATCH OVER YOUNG SPIKE.
OPTIMUS... ARE WE LEAVING?
YES, JETFIRE. CLIFFJUMPER WILL PILOT YOU TO WHERE THE DECEPTICONS ARE LOCATED.
WE'RE GOING TO TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOU, BUDDY.
...ALL RIGHT.
LET'S GET TO IT THEN.
BWEEEEE
"WHEN WILL OUR GIRL TAKE TO THE SKIES?"


THIS SHIP WILL NEVER FLY AGAIN. SHE IS TOO BIG AND NEEDS TOO MUCH ENERGON.
BUT WE ONLY NEED HER ANTENNAE.
IT'S TIME TO CALL IN REINFORCEMENTS.
SOUNDWAVE?
IS THAT REALLY YOU?
TO BE CONTINUED...

# THE MATRIX OF LETTERSHIP

SEND LETTERS TO
TRANSFORMERS@SKYBOUND.COM

**Welcome back to another insanely cool issue of TRANSFORMERS! To have an issue that includes Astrotrain, an aircraft carrier sinking, and the tragic return of Jetfire…who could ask for anything else?! Your trusty editor reporting for duty!**

***I can't see the stars anymore, Ben! But I can read your lovely letters! Let's get to em!***

Hi Dan and crew,
Another absolutely stellar issue, the parallels between Optimus and Sparkplug and their shared experiences in war and loss is such a perfect way to show how that toll has really affected Prime. I also really liked the detail of Megatron's fusion cannon arm turning into Prime's smokestack when he's in alt mode (would totally love to see a toy of that someday)

**How SICK would that be?!**

***Make it happen, Hasbro!!! Also, I forgot I'd have to figure out his truck mode with it, so I had to come up with that one ON THE PAGE. Whew!!!***

On that note, have you seen the trend of fans putting the arms of Megatron toys onto their Primes with the "How do you feel about going on the offensive?" line as the caption? Only 5 issues in and you've already left your mark on the fandom.

Very excited to see the conclusion of the first arc, the ending of #5 with the Devastator reveal is the scariest that character has felt for me since The Movie. Looking forward to the epic boss fight to come!

Anthony Sibits

**When I was a kid and the Constructicons were first introduced, Devastator seemed like an impossible figure for the Autobots to fight… Daniel and Mike really did the whole battle with him justice in issues 5 and 6!**

***And in answer to your question, Anthony, yes! All my friends have been texting me letting me know of all the creative people out there who are putting their toys to the test! It's so cool to see.***

DEVASTATER IN ISSUE FIVE!!!!!!! The guy whose leader is a foot and nobody knows the names of half of the Constructicons. Are you going to do the Optimus Prime controls Devastator thing from G1…? And RIP Reflector who was in 8 panels and died immediately after looking at Optimus. You were a very important character who will be remembered--despite the fact that we won't. LOL. Anyways I love the thing where Jazz says something and Cliffjumper is like I don't know what that means. That was great and I love all the new characters and finally the moment I saw Devastator!

Keep up the amazing comics.
Logan

**Thanks for the kind word, Logan. I would love to see a buddy-cop spinoff series someday of Jazz and Cliffjumper traveling the world, hunting down Decepticons!**

***I was never a fan of Reflector. SO HE DIES.***

Thank Metal for Daniel Warren Johnson!

Every comic on your pull list is a must read, but it takes a lot to be a book you need to read immediately. It takes a lot to make you read that same comic again after you finished your stack. TRANSFORMERS is that book. I haven't felt that "I've got to read this over and over and can't wait 30 days" feeling for a loooong time.

I've been thinking about why and I think it comes down to how strong DWJ has built the relationships between the characters in ways we haven't expected. Prime and Sparkplug as battle weary fathers is so natural but was never explored in previous iterations. Carly and Cliffjumper are the team I've never known I needed. From their awkward beginning, to comforting each other, to the two becoming tag team, to watching this relationship develop has been a highlight of the series. I can't wait to see where this goes.

Even the Decepticons have relationships. From Starscream's jealousy and fear of Megatron to Soundwave's loyalty to his cassettes, to Thundercracker wanting to avenge Skywarp, it humanizes the Decepticons. Even though they enjoy tormenting us "squishies."

Now can you make this book bi-monthly? Because once a month is too long a wait between issues.

Until All Are One,
Todd Matthy

**Daniel's done an amazing job in developing and building upon these relationships and bringing a lot of humanity and emotion to them. You could say…he's got the touch! (Sorry, remember I'm still new here and I get about a 90 days trial period for bad jokes). Also, bi-monthly? How about we hold off on that right now haha…**

***So glad you're vibing with the story, Todd! One wonderful thing about the Transformers is that because they're based on a cartoon/animated movie, a lot of their personalities have been fairly one note (not talking about the comics continuity, which I'm not super familiar with). It makes for a broad canvas to put my own spin on, and that's been an absolute blast to do.***

---

Hello Skybound Transformers team
Just wanted to say that I love what you guys are doing so far and I can't wait to see what you do next. Though I do have a couple questions:
First question: are you guy ever going to make any original characters like Marvel Comics and IDW did for example Nautica, Drift, and Flame?

***HASBRO??? Sound off, please!***

Second question: are you guys ever going to do stories on set on Cybertron in the future?

***Come on you want all my secrets already????***

Final question: are you guys ever going to spotlight stories for certain characters later on in the line?

***Jazz WILL visit a musical nightclub, mark my words (if he lives long enough). Keep your eyes peeled!***

Also keep up the good work.

From Damaria

**What Dan said, haha! Although if you're reading this issue you know the answer to at least one of those!**

---

Dear (what I would like to pitch to be) Energon Addicts,

I just finished issue two. Wow.

For months my local comic bookstore (what up Secret Head Quarters!) has been out of this comic. I take their recommendations highly but didn't know anything before opening them up just now...

HOLY GUACAMOLE!

I was raised by Optimus Prime way back in the 80's. And after the source material has been getting pounded by Hollywood for so long…I'm feeling pure glee. I'm smiling so much. I've been waiting for years for something like this to come. Thank you.

I was also not at all expecting this to be a multi-series of comics!!! Was not expecting any GI Joe crossover or Void Rivals! I can't wait to head back to SHQ to grab everything else!!! All I can hear now in my head are both the GI Joe Movie theme (cobraaa COEBRRAAAAA!!!!) and Transformers!!! I feel like a kid running home from school again to catch the latest episode!

***Just like I did after I got off the school bus! This energy is infectious, dude!!!***

My question is how did you plan and write the story arcs that will be crossing over into the other comics? Did you form some giant master plan that you broke up into separate teams? What was the process of writing and designing and finding collaborators?

***Skybound has had a wonderful team at work making sure we're all on the same page, and because it's mostly early days in the Energon Universe, we've all been building our LEGO sets in our respective corners. That will change very soon!***

Thank you again for creating this comic with care and for all of the great work!

Antonio Cisneros

***You're the best, Antonio, have a wonderful day.***

* * *

Hi Transformers team!

I'm fairly new to reading comic books and I've totally been digging Transformers. Every month. I'm totally stoked to skate to my local comic shop to read the next issue. Seeing Optimus use Megatron's arm in the last issue has to be the sickest thing ever. Also I wanna ask is Frenzy ok? He got slammed pretty hard by Optimus. Is he a total goner?

Paco

**Thanks for supporting us, Paco, and be careful that you don't skate and read an issue simultaneously!**

***I got a lot of heat from the TF community for calling Frenzy "Rumble" and vice versa, so it was time for one of them to go. Forever.***

* * *

Do you enjoy hurting us Daniel? Do you get some enjoyment from killing fan favorite characters? I feel sick... oh and spectacular job with the art! Great stuff!

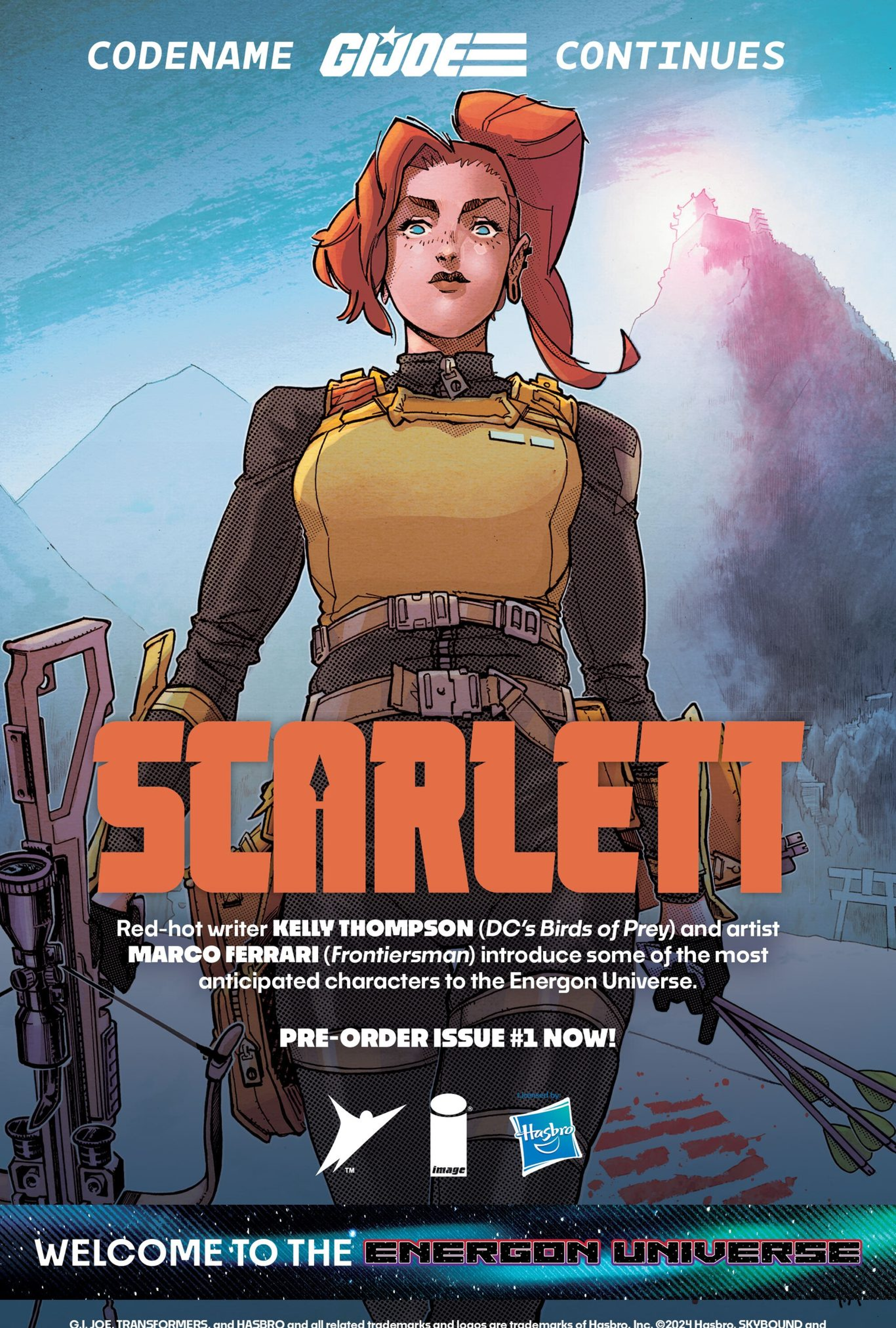
Nathan Fowlkes

**Sorry you're feeling ill with delight, Nathan…but thanks for reading!**

***All kidding aside, I'm just trying to make a story memorable enough that it will make an impression. After all, the main reason I make comics, or any kind of art, is to connect with people. So thank you for making a connection with me in this letters column, Nathan. It does not go unnoticed.***

***And that's that! In all honesty, I found this issue very hard to write, not sure why. But reading it over, I find that I like it a ton (thanks to Jorge for that), but NEXT issue? I was CRUSHING. I'm talking devil horns up at the coffee shop while writing crushing (which I actually did). JOIN ME IN THE CRUSH NEXT MONTH.***

**June is going to be a monster month in the Energon Universe and to get everyone excited enjoy the preview to our new SCARLETT series by Kelly Thompson, Marco Ferrari, Lee Loughridge and Rus Wooton debuting June 5th!**



CODENAME G.I. JOE CONTINUES

# SCARLETT

Red-hot writer **KELLY THOMPSON** (*DC's Birds of Prey*) and artist **MARCO FERRARI** (*Frontiersman*) introduce some of the most anticipated characters to the Energon Universe.

**PRE-ORDER ISSUE #1 NOW!**

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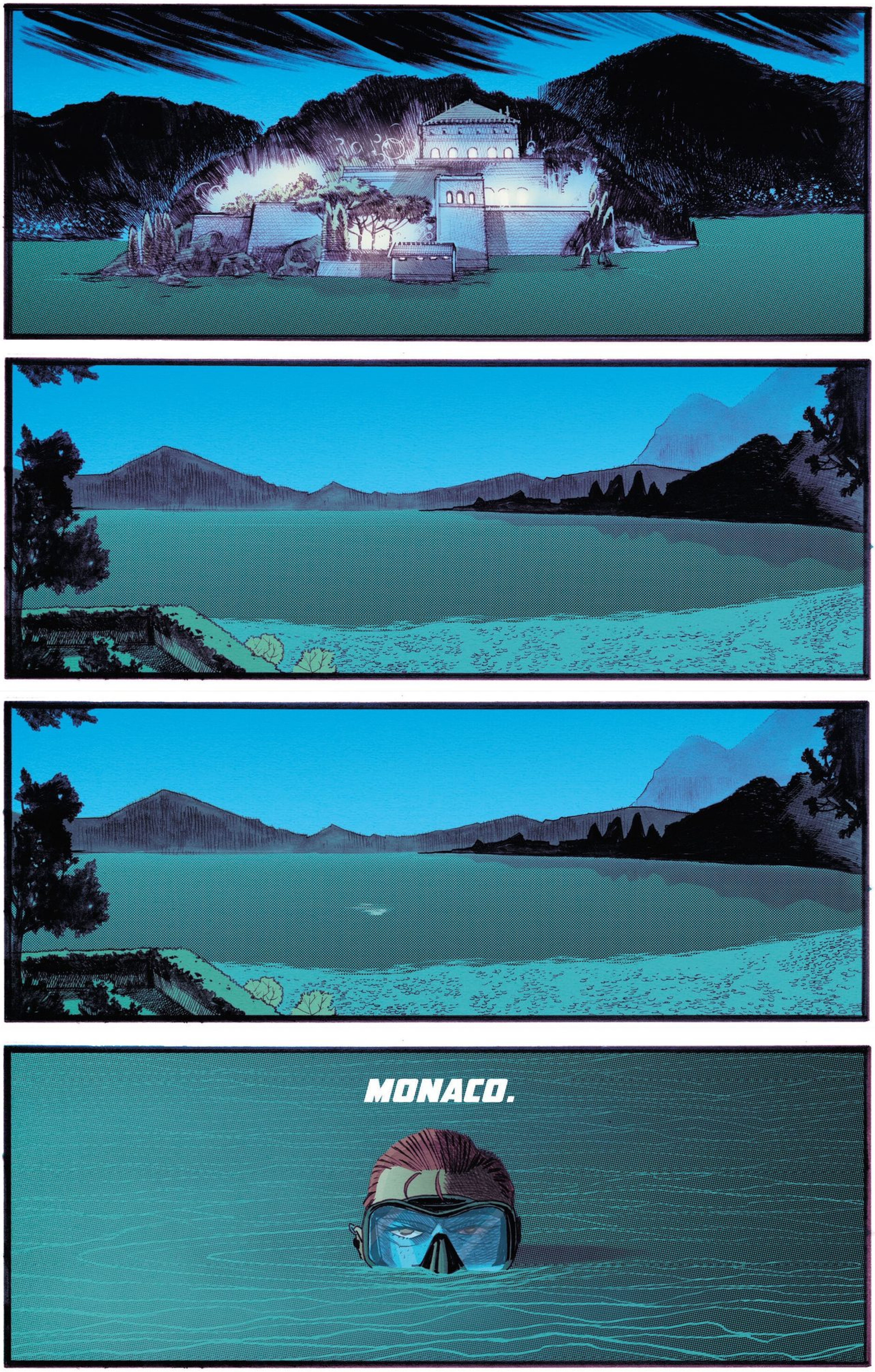
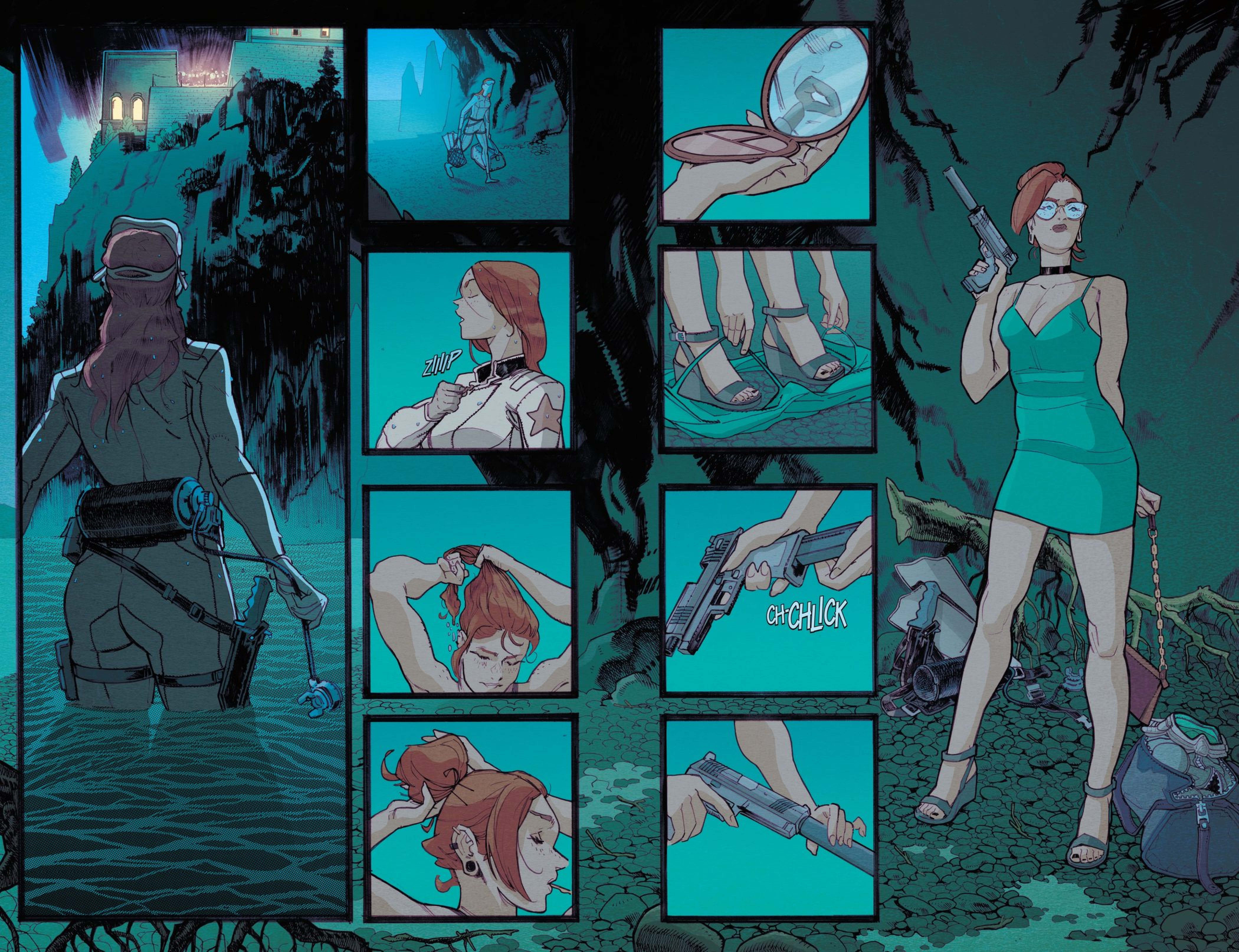

MONACO.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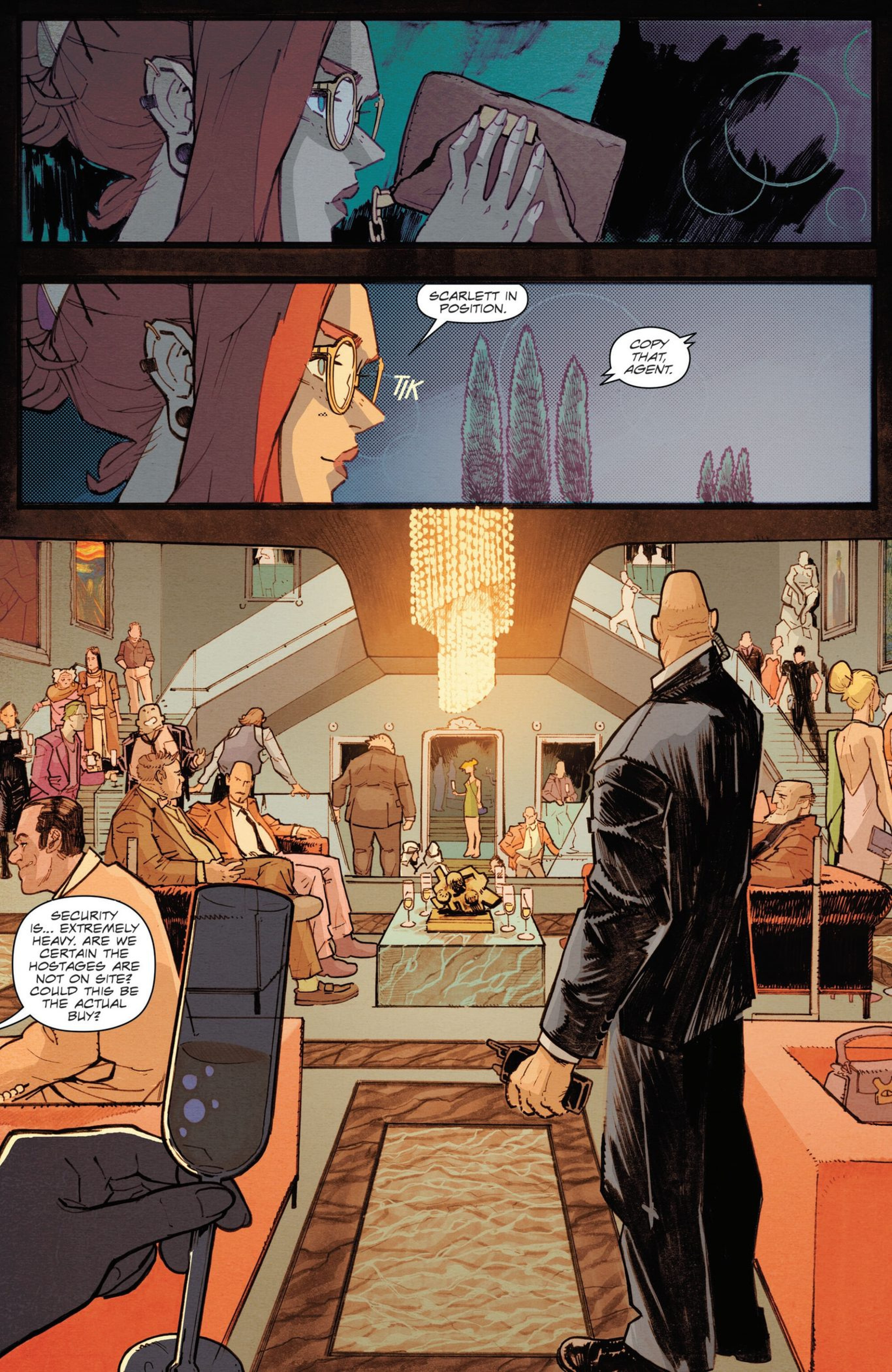
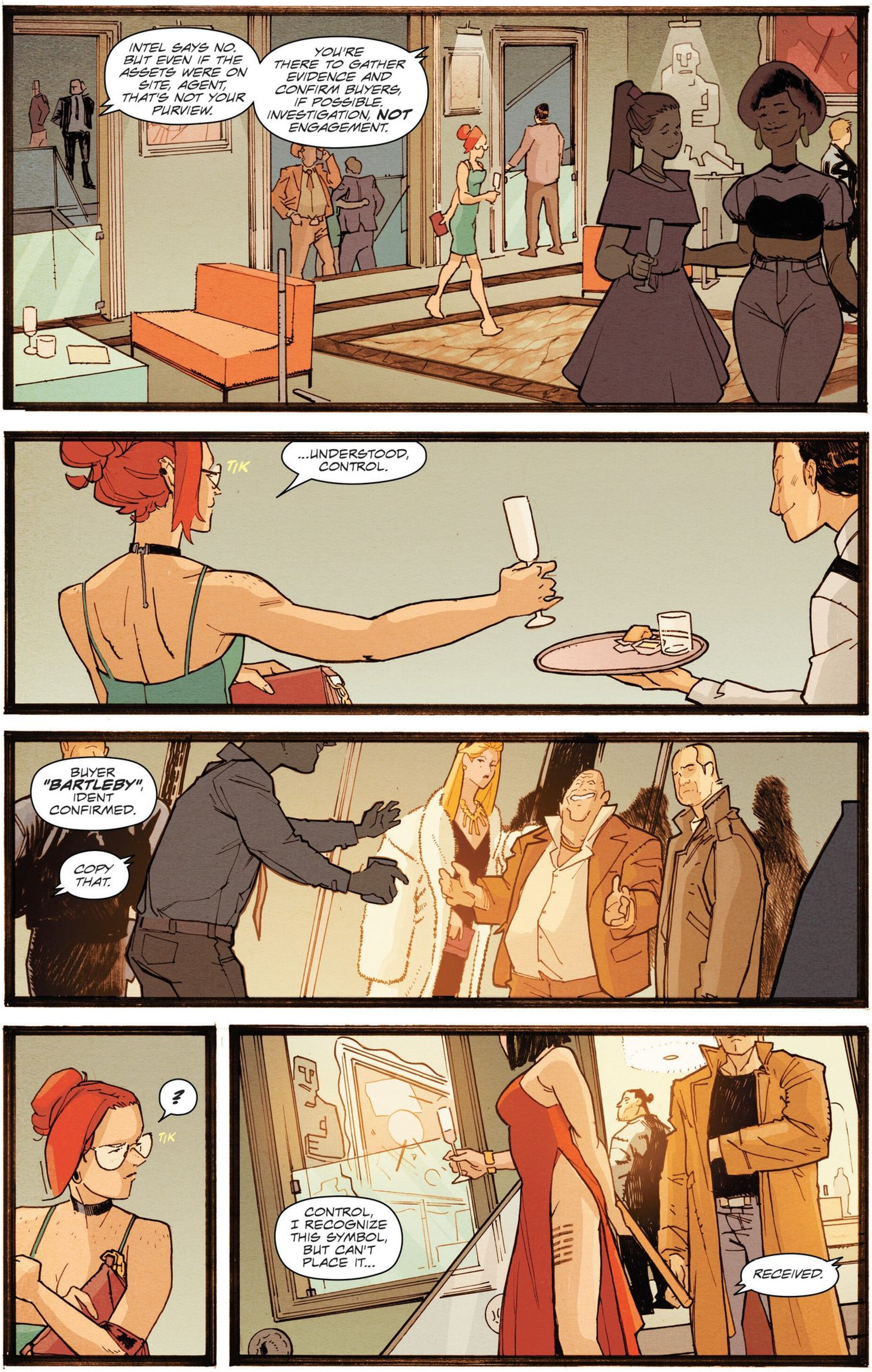
CH-CHLICK


SCARLETT IN POSITION.
COPY THAT, AGENT.
TIK
SECURITY IS... EXTREMELY HEAVY. ARE WE CERTAIN THE HOSTAGES ARE NOT ON SITE? COULD THIS BE THE ACTUAL BUY?


INTEL SAYS NO. BUT EVEN IF THE ASSETS WERE ON SITE, AGENT, THAT'S NOT YOUR PURVIEW.
YOU'RE THERE TO GATHER EVIDENCE AND CONFIRM BUYERS, IF POSSIBLE. INVESTIGATION, **NOT** ENGAGEMENT.
TIK
...UNDERSTOOD, CONTROL.
BUYER **"BARTLEBY"**, IDENT CONFIRMED.
COPY THAT.
?
TIK
CONTROL, I RECOGNIZE THIS SYMBOL, BUT CAN'T PLACE IT...
RECEIVED.

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**COVER C**

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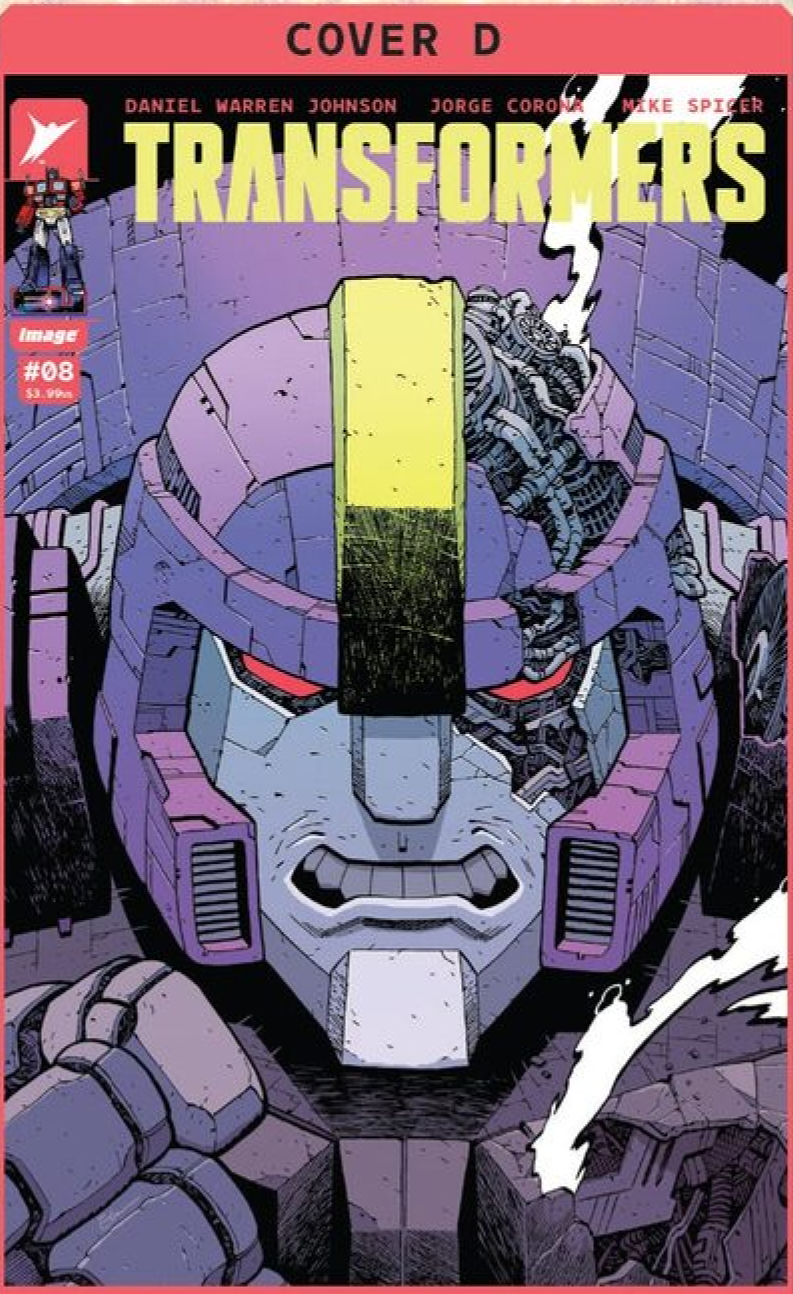
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